FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-162
Tuesday
21 August 1990

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-162 CONTENTS *21 August 1990*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Government Seeks To Help Support Gulf Effort *[KYODO]* 1
Trade, Foreign Affairs Experts View Gulf Crisis *[Tokyo TV]* 1
Japanese To Pay Homage at Soviet-Held Islands *[KYODO]* 2
Maltese Prime Minister Fenech Adami Arrives *[KYODO]* 2
Iron Pipe Projectiles Fired at Police Station *[KYODO]* 2

North Korea

North Seeks Liaison Officer's Contact on 23 Aug *[Pyongyang Radio]* 3
U.S., ROK 'Provocations' Denounced at MAC *[KCNA]* 3
North Continues Reaction to Pan-National Rally 4
    Gathering Notes Success *[KCNA]* 4
    Dailies Record Accomplishments *[KCNA]* 4
    Women's Role Stressed *[KCNA]* 5
    'Evening of Culture' Conducted *[KCNA]* 5
    Korean Catholics Hail Success *[KCNA]* 6
    Overseas Koreans Visit 'Wall' *[KCNA]* 6
    'Truth' of ROK Obstruction *[KCNA]* 7
    No Strengthening 'Closed-Door' *[KCNA]* 8
Chuche Idea 'Carried' at ROK Universities *[KCNA]* 9
Pacific Regional Group's Reunification Statement *[KCNA]* 9
Soviet Science, Technology Delegation Arrives *[KCNA]* 9
Japanese UN Official Promise 'Inconsistent' *[KCNA]* 9
Japan Asked To End Ban on Trips to North *[KYODO]* 10
Newspaper Criticizes Japanese Visit to Shrine *[KCNA]* 10
Kim Il-song Greets Afghanistan's Najibullah *[KCNA]* 10
Papers Mark Anniversary of Afghan Independence *[KCNA]* 11
Kim Il-song Greets Tanzanian President *[KCNA]* 11
Relations Reopened With St. Vincent, Grenadines *[KCNA]* 11
Participants in 'Pyongyang Cup' Soccer Named *[KCNA]* 11
Newspaper Reviews 1945 Work of Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 11
* Accelerated Building of 'Tongil Street' Urged *[NODONG SINMUN 21 Jun]* 12
* Youth Play Role in Light Industry Revolution *[NODONG CHONGNYON 2 Jun]* 13

South Korea

South Decides on Delegates to High-Level Talks *[Seoul Radio]* 15
    North Proposes 23 Aug Contact *[Seoul Radio]* 15
NAEWOE Views North's Unification Alliance *[YONHAP]* 15
New Dissident Party Leader Views Unification *[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Aug]* 16
North Said To Accuse U.S. of Provocations *[YONHAP]* 16
Korean Jurisdiction Over U.S. Troops Expanded *[YONHAP]* 17
Communications Minister Meets Iranian Counterpart *[YONHAP]* 17

    Expected To Sign Accord *[THE KOREA HERALD 21 Aug]* ... 17
Pak Chol-on Visits Kim Yong-sam; Comments *[YONHAP]* ... 17
Opposition Parties Disagree on Merger Leadership *[YONHAP]* ... 18
Opposition Party Again Calls for Elections *[YONHAP]* ... 18
Dissidents Criticize Acquittal in Torture Case *[YONHAP]* ... 19
Defense Ministry 'Pushing' for Increased Budget *[YONHAP]* ... 19

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Leaders Meet Thai Border Talks Delegation *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 20
    Delegation Departs *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 20
Singapore Trade Delegation Arrives 20 Aug *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 20
Saw Maung Receives President of Amoco *[Rangoon Radio]* ... 20

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister, French Envoy Discuss Gulf *[BERNAMA]* ... 20
Four Detained Under Internal Security Act *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 19 Aug]* ... 21

Singapore

Joint Naval Exercise With Brunei Starts 20 Aug *[THE STRAITS TIMES 20 Aug]* ... 21
Lee Kuan Yew Scheduled To Visit USSR *[THE STRAITS TIMES 21 Aug]* ... 22
Daily Comments on Indonesian Army Officer's Rise *[THE STRAITS TIMES 13 Aug]* ... 22

Cambodia

Little Progress at Cambodian Talks in New York *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 18 Aug]* ... 23
Sihanouk Statement on Meeting Called Pretext *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 23
Radio Welcomes 45th Anniversary of Revolution *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 24
Radio Notes Success of Svay Rieng Regiment *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 25
Battle Successes in 4th Military Region Reported *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 25
SPK on Enemy Casualties in Kompong Thom in Jul ... 26
More Firearms Uncovered in Battambang Commune *[SPK]* ... 26
20,000 Refugees Said in Kompong Speu Since Jun *[SPK]* ... 26
Editorial on Enhancing Mass Organizations' Role *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 26
Japanese Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 18 Aug *[SPK]* ... 27
Hun Sen Encourages Japanese Role in Settlement *[KYODO]* ... 27
Radio Rejects Vietnam's Proposal on Elections *[Radio VONADK]* ... 28
180 SRV Troops Said Sent to Battambang 6 Aug *[Radio VONADK]* ... 28

Indonesia

Indonesians Allowed To Leave Kuwait, Iraq *[Jakarta Radio]* ... 28
Ministry on Workers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait *[ANTARA]* ... 28
Editorial Comments on Singapore-Kuwait Analogy *[THE JAKARTA POST 9 Aug]* ... 29
Suharto Gives National Day Speech 16 Aug *[Jakarta TV]* ... 30

Laos

PRC Government Delegation Arrives for Visit *[KPL]* ... 33
Paper Views Military Talks With Thailand *[Vientiane Radio]* ... 34
Phoun Sipaseut Attends Indonesian Commemoration *[Vientiane Radio]* ... 34
Rebel Leader Speaks Against SRV 'Occupation' *[Lao Liberation Radio]* ... 34

Philippines

Further Reaction to Middle East Crisis Reported 36
    Ramos Reemphasizes Evacuation *[Manila Radio]* 36
    Iran To Increase Oil Exports *[BUSINESS WORLD 20 Aug]* 36
    Ramos: U.S. Not Using Bases *[Quezon City Radio]* 36
    Diplomatic Protest to Ambassador *[Manila Radio]* 37
    Aquino Frees Funds for Rescue *[Manila Radio]* 37
    Ramos Seeks To Prevent Unrest *[Manila Radio]* 37
    Iraqi Soldiers Enter Embassy *[Manila Radio]* 38
    'Strongly Worded' Protest *[Manila Radio]* 38
Manila Cannot Deny U.S. Refuelling Rights *[Manila Radio]* 38
Ramos Dismisses Coup Threat During Interview *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 19 Aug]* 38
Further Reportage on Manila, Rural Disturbances 42
    Police, Military Still Alerted *[MANILA BULLETIN 20 Aug]* 42
    Police Countering Threat *[Quezon City Radio]* 42
    Aquino Rules Out Emergency *[Manila Radio]* 42
    Mandaluyong Police Station Hit *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 21 Aug]* 43
    Western District on Red Alert *[MANILA BULLETIN 20 Aug]* 43
    Nine Farmers Massacred *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 21 Aug]* 44
Further Reportage on Government-Rebel Conflict 44
    Manhunt for Noble Continues *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 20 Aug]* 44
    Residents Urge Halt to Manhunt *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 21 Aug]* 45
    NPA Rebels Attack Town Hall *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 21 Aug]* 45
    MNLF Rebels Surrender *[Quezon City Radio]* 46

Thailand

Further Reportage on Gulf Crisis, Domestic Impact 46
    Foreign Investment Said Unaffected *[THE NATION 20 Aug]* 46
    390 Workers To Arrive From Dhahran *[Bangkok TV]* 46
    151 Workers Return *[THE NATION 21 Aug]* 46
    Iraqi Envoy: Rape 'Fake Stories' *[AFP]* 47
    Chatchai on Evacuating Workers *[Bangkok Radio]* 47
Japanese Foreign Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia *[KYODO]* 48
Chawalit, Watanabe Discuss Cambodian Issue *[KYODO]* 48
Lao Army Chief Gives Speech in Bangkok *[Vientiane Radio]* 48
Chatchai Criticizes Launching of Lao Border Plan *[THE NATION 21 Aug]* 51
Trade, Cultural Accord With Uzbekistan Signed *[THE NATION 20 Aug]* 51

Vietnam

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Gulf Crisis *[AFP]* 52
U.S. Senator Lugar, Delegation Depart 20 Aug *[VNA]* 52
Agriculture Delegation Visits Soviet Union *[VNA]* 52
Vietnam Helps Laos Install New Telephone System *[VNA]* 52
Businessmen, Official Imprisoned for Smuggling *[AFP]* 52
Quang Tri Security Force Arrests Smugglers *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
Transport of Contraband by Army Trucks Condemned *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
Seminar Held To Help Overcome 'Brain Drain' *[VNA]* 54
Party Adviser Pham Van Dong on Aug Revolution *[VNA]* 54
Food Shortages Reported in Hau Giang Province *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
Increasing Role of Non-State Sector Viewed *[VNA]* 54
Article Defines Preferred Socialist Model *[Hanoi Radio]* 55

AUSTRALASIA

South Pacific Commission To Keep Noumea Base *[AFP]* 57

Australia

Inflation Forecast Reviewed Due to Gulf Crisis *[Melbourne International]* 57
Hawke Meets With Iraqi Envoy Over Crisis *[AFP]* 57
Hawke Asks Parliament Support on Mideast Crisis *[Melbourne International]* 58
Minister Announces Ban on Antarctic Mining *[AFP]* 58

Fiji

Indian Religious Groups Decry New Constitution *[AFP]* 59

Papua New Guinea

Guerrillas Warned Not To Use Border as Base *[AFP]* 59

Japan

Government Seeks To Help Support Gulf Effort

OW2108064990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 21 KYODO—The Japanese Government is seeking a broader interpretation of laws prohibiting the dispatch of forces overseas in a bid to contribute toward resolving the crisis in the Persian Gulf, government sources said Tuesday.

Such an interpretation may allow Tokyo to send non-military personnel to the troubled Middle East.

Current Japanese laws allow only for the dispatch of Japanese personnel overseas in the event of natural disasters and prohibit the sending of Self Defense Forces [SDF] anywhere for any reason.

A multinational force, led by the United States, has been assembling in the Persian Gulf to enforce United Nations sanctions against Iraq for its August 2 invasion of Kuwait and annexation six days later.

While other nations have committed troops and military hardware to the region, demands have also grown that Japan, which depends heavily on Persian Gulf oil, contribute more substantially to the international effort.

U.S. President George Bush has already asked Japan to share in the costs of the deployment which could run into the hundreds of millions of dollars per day.

The government will seek a revision of the related laws during the Diet session this fall in order to allow for the dispatch of non-military Japanese personnel to aid in the resolution of regional disputes, sources said.

A 1987 law allows Japan to send civil service personnel, such as police and fire fighters, as well as medical teams to the scenes of natural disasters and nuclear accidents.

The government, in revising the law, would like to include the SDF and the Defense Agency under the law and also allow for the dispatch of former agency officials who have entered the civil service.

The government will also consider increasing its share of the burden in stationing U.S. forces in Japan.

Until the laws are revised, however, government sources indicated, the government will seek a broader interpretation of current laws.

The sources cited Japan's elevated status internationally and the resolution of regional conflicts in the post-cold war world as reasons for the expanded interpretations.

Some government officials and members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party believe that retired members of the Defense Agency should be dispatched to provide paramilitary expertise in resolving regional disputes. Government sources said they did not see problems sending people who had retired from the SDF, "even if the laws are not revised."

When the laws and their constitutional foundations are debated in the Diet this fall, the officials expect considerable resistance from members of the opposition parties.

"It would not be acceptable in international society, not to do anything for fear of the dangers to our own people," said one source regarding the safety of Japanese citizens stranded in Iraq and Kuwait.

A total of 278 Japanese are in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, but have yet to be forcibly relocated in the same way the American and British detainees have been by the Iraqis.

The 260 Japanese sheltered in the Japanese Embassy in Kuwait, however, are expected to be moved to Baghdad by August 24.

Trade, Foreign Affairs Experts View Gulf Crisis

OW2008224590

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 19 August broadcasts a 60-minute roundtable discussion entitled "Tense Middle East Situation and Japan's Measures." Participating in the discussion are Kabun Muto, minister of international trade and industry; Takakazu Kuriyama, vice foreign minister; Nobuo Asai, professor at the Kobe University of Foreign Studies; Shigeki Oyama, president of the Middle East Economic Research Institute; commentator Naoki Tanaka; and military commentator Ebata Kenkai. The moderator is NHK commentator Korehtio Obama.

After briefly describing the Middle East situation, Obama asks participants to state their views on the possibility of military clashes. Muto says: "I sincerely hope that the crisis will be settled without any military clashes." Kuriyama notes: "We have been concerned about the possibility of Iraqi troops invading Saudi Arabia. I believe that the danger of military clashes is diminishing a little because the deployment of the so-called multinational forces, comprised mainly of U.S. forces, continues in Saudi Arabia."

In turning to the question of foreign detainees in Iraq and Kuwait, Obama asks Kuriyama whether any Japanese are among the detainees. In reply, Kuriyama says: "We are concerned about the situation there. At the moment, we have no confirmation that any Japanese are among the detainees. We have issued a strong request to the Iraqi Government to allow any Japanese to leave as soon as possible. We plan to continue our efforts to ensure the departure of Japanese from the two countries in cooperation with other countries and the United Nations."

After discussing President Husayn's goals, Obama asks Muto about Japan's oil supplies. Muto says: "Japan has a 132-day stockpile now; there will be no collapse in the supply of oil in Japan. Therefore, another oil crisis like the third oil crisis will not occur in Japan for the time being. The government plans to construct more nuclear power plants."

Obama takes up the subject of what Japan can do and how Japan will deal with the Middle East situation. Noting that Tanaka just pointed out that Japan should consider sharing the expense of the multinational and U.S. forces, Obama asks Kuriyama for his opinion. Kuriyama says that "relevant government ministries and agencies are examining what Japan should do to restore stability and peace in the Gulf region and how Japan should participate in current international efforts. They plan to work out concrete plans soon. The region is a major oil supplier for Japan; it is important to have peace there. I think that Japan should make every effort possible." Asked for his comments on this subject, Muto says: "It is important that the Gulf nations understand that Japan will help, and I believe that it is necessary for Japan to provide quick and appropriate aid to Gulf nations. Although some people argue that we should send minesweepers, that option should be carefully considered. I think that Japan should provide financial and personnel assistance within constitutional and legal limits. I also think that a situation where the Emergency Aid Law, which is designed to provide aid only to foreign nations facing disasters, could be amended might occur; then Japan would be able to provide more appropriate aid to foreign nations." Kuriyama says: "Japan does not intend to play a military role in the Middle East. However, I believe that it is necessary for Japanese to participate in international efforts; we are seriously examining ways they could participate. Japan should provide positive financial assistance to nations which are suffering economically."

Japanese To Pay Homage at Soviet-Held Islands

OW2108083290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Sapporo, Aug. 21 KYODO—Japanese people will pay homage at their relatives' tombs on all the Soviet-held northern Pacific islands off Hokkaido later this month, the Hokkaido prefectural government said Tuesday.

The Soviet Union will allow the Japanese to tour the Etorofu Island for the first time since World War II. They will also visit the Shikotan and Kunashiri Islands, and the Habomai Group, the local government said. Japanese had been barred from Etorofu for defense reasons.

The Japanese visitors will have exchanges with local Soviet residents of the four islands.

The Soviet move is an effort to improve relations with Japan, before Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and President Mikhail Gorbachev visit Tokyo in September and next year, respectively, observers said.

The four northern islands were held by the Soviets from the end of World War II. Japan has claimed sovereignty to the islands, which is a stumbling block to improved relations between the two countries.

The local government said 121 Japanese, including 88 relatives of former residents of the northern islands, and 33 doctors and Foreign Ministry officials, will visit the islands. There will be three separate groups and the tour is the 13th.

The first two groups will leave from Nemuro Port on the easternmost tip of Hokkaido on August 24, and the third group will leave from the port on August 29, on ships of Hokkaido University and the Hokkaido Prefectural Government, according to the local government.

Maltese Prime Minister Fenech Adami Arrives

OW1908112490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1042 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 19 KYODO—Malta's prime minister, Edward Fenech Adami, arrived in Tokyo on Sunday from Australia for a three-day visit to Japan.

Adami will meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Monday. He is scheduled to leave for South Korea on Tuesday.

Iron Pipe Projectiles Fired at Police Station

OW2008020690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0121 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Chiba, Aug. 20 KYODO—Two projectiles made of iron piping were fired early Monday into the parking lot of a police station in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, and police said they suspected extremists opposed to expansion work at Narita Airport of carrying out the action. Nobody was injured in the incident.

The projectiles were fired from a nearby junior high school where police found three dry cells, a cloth smelling of gasoline, and a cigarette can, police said.

Police said they suspected extremists fired the missiles, one 17 centimeters long and three centimeters in diameter and the other 9.5 centimeters long and 1.8 centimeters in diameter, by using a timing device made from the three batteries, the tobacco can, and other parts.

Extremists trying to block the second-stage construction of runways at the new Tokyo International Airport at Narita were probably responsible, the police said. Policemen on duty at the station heard three explosions and rushed to the junior high school where they saw flames flaring up at the rear of the school workshop, the police said. The policemen put out the fire and there was little damage to the school building, the police said.

North Korea

North Seeks Liaison Officer's Contact on 23 Aug

SK2108042790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Telephone message sent by Choe Pong-chun, responsible liaison officer for the North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks, to Kim Yong-hwan, responsible liaison officer for the South side's delegation—read by announcer]

[Text] To Mr. Kim Yong-hwan, responsible liaison officer for the South side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks:

To discuss working-level issues for the upcoming North-South High-Level Talks in Seoul, I propose a contact between responsible liaison officers from both sides at 1500 on 23 August in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

[Signed] Choe Pong-chun, responsible liaison officer for the North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks.
21 August, 1990

U.S., ROK 'Provocations' Denounced at MAC

SK2008104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Panmunjom August 20 (KCNA)—The 457th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] was held here today at the proposal of our side.

Exposing the U.S. side's criminal reinforcement of their aggression forces and large-scale war exercises in South Korea of late which bring the military tensions in the sky, on the ground and in the sea into extremes, our side called the enemy side to account for it.

According to the statement of Maj. Gen. [Major General] Choe Ui-ung, senior member of our side, the U.S. side mobilized a total of more than 450 fighter planes of various types in aerial strike exercises for attack on the North on eight occasions on July 27 alone. Involved in the exercises were formations of fighter-bombers, pursuit-assault planes and assault planes such as F-16, FA-18 and A-6 based in Kadena, Okinawa, and Iwakuni in Japan proper.

These fighter planes staged aerial war games simulating a surprise attack on the depths of the northern half of Korea in coordination with formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes and airborne warning and control planes belonging to the South Korean puppet Airforce such as F-16, F-4, F-5, A- 37 and OA-10. A parachuting exercise for infiltrating "commandoes" by surprise was also held.

Such war games of the U.S. side numbered more than 190 in the first 19 days of August.

Meanwhile, the United States is rapidly reinforcing its aggression forces in South Korea these days.

A wing of F-16 fighter-bombers equipped with super-high- tech night navigation facilities is under deployment at a U.S. airbase in South Korea and submarines and tanks are being deployed there in secrecy.

The situation is growing worse rapidly due to the United States' adventurous war provocations, and the grave danger of war is imminent in actuality on the Korean peninsula.

At this juncture, the U.S. side is ceaselessly committing grave military provocations in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and in the seas.

Displaying photos, visual aids and videotapes to prove that the enemy has massively reinforced his aggression forces in South Korea and committed grave military provocations, ceaselessly staging large-scale war exercises of late, the senior member of our side called attention to the serious nature of the prevailing situation.

He strongly protested and denounced the U.S. side's arms buildup, war exercises and military provocations as a crude violation of the preamble, paragraphs 6, 10 and 12 and subparagraphs 13 D and paragraph 15 of the Armistice Agreement, as an outspoken challenge to the DPRK's new reunification proposal and disarmament proposal.

Choe Ui-ung strongly demanded the U.S. side take responsible steps to promptly end these criminal acts.

The U.S. side however, far from giving assurances that it would take steps to keep the tension from growing acute, categorically denied the fact itself.

Choe Ui-ung stressed:

The U.S. side's attitude only shows that the words of the Americans about "support" to North-South dialogue, "relaxation of the tensions" and "confidence building" have no authenticity and it is nothing but a trick to mislead world opinion.

The United States must discard the old concept of confrontation and renounce its policy of aggression aimed at keeping hold on South Korea as its permanent nuclear forward base and igniting a nuclear war in Korea.

If the U.S. side fail to lend an ear to our warnings but continue resorting to moves for showdown of strength, ceaselessly committing military provocations, it would be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

The senior member of our side stressed that although the U.S. imperialists try to keep up the division and tensions for an indefinite period, fostering their policy of military occupation of South Korea and egging the South Korean puppets on to confrontation behind the curtain of dialogue, it is a miscalculation and they would meet a disgraceful defeat in face of the Korean people and revolutionary Armed Forces.

North Continues Reaction to Pan-National Rally

Gathering Notes Success

SK1808045590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA)—An evening gathering of working people and students in Pyongyang was held at Kim Il-song Square Friday in congratulation of the successful Pan-National Rally [PNR] for Peace and Reunification of the Country.

Addressing the evening gathering, Kim Tong-yon, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth, wished the participants in the rally greater success in their future work for accelerating the noble cause of reunification in conformity with the desire of the entire fellow countrymen to achieve national reunification on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity and on the basis of the achievements gained in the PNR.

Working people and students in the city and Koreans from abroad danced hand in hand to the tune of the songs "Pyongyang Shining Under the Sunrays of Leadership", "The Nodul Riverside," "Our Wish Is Reunification" and "Reunification Train Runs" with the firm determination and will to bring without fail the day when all the Koreans will enjoy a happy life in a reunified country.

They loudly shouted slogans "Korea is one," "Let us make the 1990s a decade of reunification!" and "Long live our reunified country!"

Dailies Record Accomplishments

SK1808052390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate editorials to the successful holding of the pan-national rally, calling for the accomplishment of the cause of the country's reunification with the turnout of the whole nation.

NODONG SINMUN says the rally was, indeed, a significant event that recorded a new page of the movement of the nation itself, the civil-sponsored reunification movement, in the history of our nation's reunification movement, and a symbolic event that contributed to turning the cause of national reunification into the whole nation's cause. This is a precious victory jointly won by the patriotic forces in the arduous struggle for the country's reunification, the daily says, and adds:

The pan-national rally was a rally of great national unity which was participated in by delegates of all walks of life at home and abroad with the ardent desire of the 70 million fellow countrymen, irrespective of ideology, idea, political view and religious belief. And it was a historical gathering which demonstrated worldwide the strong aspiration and unswerving will of the entire fellow countrymen to decisively smash the moves of the separatist forces inside and outside the country to bar national reunification and build a united country, independent, neutral and peaceloving, in the '90s without fail.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"It is historical inevitability that a nation which has been divided artificially by outside forces should be reunified. All our compatriots in the North, in the South and abroad must unite closely and fight dynamically, full of hope and conviction, and make the 1990s a historic period of national reunification."

Noting that to accomplish the cause of the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country is the supreme task of the entire Korean people, the editorial continues:

All the compatriots at home and abroad must oppose the "institutional unification doctrine", the way of unifying the country with one side conquering the other or being conquered, and continue the powerful struggle to reunify the country by establishing a confederal state on the basis of the coexistence of two systems and two self-governments.

They must keep on the vigorous, nationwide anti-U.S., anti-war, anti-nuclear and peace movement to have the U.S. forces and their nuclear weapons pulled out of South Korea, oppose the arms buildup by the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u military fascist clique, their stooges, under the pretext of "military equilibrium" and lift up voices demanding disarmament.

The South Korean people must struggle more staunchly for the dismantlement of the concrete wall, the symbol of national split-up, and for the abolition of the "National Security Law" and other legal and institutional mechanisms banning contact and travel with the North by "law".

Not only dialogue between authorities but also dialogues of civilian level should be held and dialogues of political, military, economic, cultural and other fields and dialogues of all strata should also be held between the North and the South. A political consultative meeting in which the authorities of the North and the South and delegates of political parties, social organisations and people of all walks of life participate, a most authoritative form of dialogue for reunification, should be convened so as to incorporate the debates on the reunification of the nation and find its way.

The entire people at home and abroad must decisively oppose the self-opinionated concept of "unified channel of dialogue" of the South Korean puppets and further expand the pan-national rally, a theatre of wide-range civilian dialogue between the North and the South and overseas.

All the Koreans in the North and the South and abroad must deal a determined counterblow at any attempt of the U.S. imperialists and puppets to "legalize" the permanent division of the country as "two Koreas" and check and frustrate it at every step.

All the units and organisations at home and abroad struggling for national reunification should pool their efforts and unite with each other and, furthermore, form a nationwide united front embracing all the political parties, social organisations, various units and figures of all circles.

The editorial goes on:

The United States should squarely look at the reality of the Korean peninsula where the sentiments of national reunification have become an irresistible trend, and change its Korean policy to suit it. It should give up its anachronistic scheme of permanent occupation of South Korea and its "two Koreas" policy and immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and stop unreasonable interference in Korean affairs.

The No Tae-u group should abandon its foolish dream to keep the country divided forever and prolong its remaining days under the patronage of foreign forces and abandon its anti-national, anti-reunification scheme and join in the flow of the nation toward reunification before it is too late.

MINJU CHOSON declares that the cause of national reunification will be realized without fail in the 90s, a hopeful decade, if the entire Korean people in the North and the South and overseas wage a vigorous struggle for national reunification in close unity.

Women's Role Stressed

*SK1808103990 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1025 GMT 18 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA)—Women delegates of Koreans at home and from abroad to the Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country called a press conference at Pyongyang Koryo Hotel here today appealing to all the Korean women to rise in the struggle for national reunification.

Speaking at the press conference which was presided over by Kim Chin-hyang, a member of the delegation of Koreans from Europe, Kim Yong-ae, a member of the delegation of Koreans from Japan, explained the purport of the press conference.

We arranged this press conference to show how ardent the desire of our nation for the reunification of the country is and who blocks it and express our resolve not to allow them to block it any longer and, at the same time, to call upon all the Korean women to rise, whether they live abroad or at home, to form a "pan-national alliance for reunification" and exert utmost efforts in the struggle to reunify the country.

Then "appeal to the Korean women at home and abroad" was read out by Choe Yong-suk, a member of the delegation of Koreans from Europe.

It is because of the division of territory that our women's dignity is trampled underfoot by foreign forces and we suffer from the pains of loss of dear sons and daughters under the sword of fascism, the appeal says, adding: We can no longer reconcile ourselves to the sufferings and misfortunes from division.

The road of reunification opened by woman student Yim Su-kyong who visited the northern motherland has been broadened by the pan-national rally, the appeal says, stressing:

The time has come when all the women turn out for the reunification.

All the Korean women at home and abroad should take the lead in the struggle for carrying into practice the resolution adopted at the pan-national rally.

Let us make effort in every way to realize free travel and full-scale opening and achieve reunification through confederation.

Let Korean women in the North and the South and overseas take an active part in the dialogue for reunification.

Let all the Korean women in the North and the South of the motherland and overseas wage more vigorously the joint solidarity struggle for reunification in unity.

Let all the Korean women give a powerful backing to the "Pan-National Alliance for Reunification" so that it may discharge its mission and role as the nation's grand organization for the reunification movement.

Let us make a general onward march in the struggle for national reunification, closely united under the banner of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, transcending ideas and ideologies.

'Evening of Culture' Conducted

*SK1908090390 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0833 GMT 19 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 19 (KCNA)—An evening of culture for reunification of the participants in the pan-national rally [PNR] was held Saturday at the Central Youth Hall.

The hall resounded with loud shouts of slogans "Motherland, reunification" and "Korea is one" and the concerted singing of the song "Our Wish Is Reunification" by compatriots in the North and the South and abroad.

Present there were Chairman Yun Ki-pok and Vice-Chairmen Chang Chol, Yo Yon-ku and Chon Kum-chol of the North side's preparatory committee for the PNR, officials concerned, working people and artists in Pyongyang.

Also present were delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters for the PNR, delegates of the overseas promotion headquarters, heads of regional delegations and delegates.

Yun Ki-pok in his speech called for determinedly fighting together as frontrankers, vanguards of the reunification movement in the North and the South and abroad, rallied firm under the banner of the "Pan-National Alliance for Country's Reunification," in order to bring earlier the day of reunification when all the fellow countrymen will dance with joy in each other's arms.

Yi Haeng-u, co-delegate of the overseas promotion headquarters for the PNR and co-chairman of the North American promotion headquarters, in his speech said the first open debate of the people's level on reunification ever since the country was divided confirmed that the people are the masters of reunification. He called for striving to achieve reunification by themselves.

Then, there was a performance of the Wangjaesan Light Music Orchestra.

Art pieces were also presented by compatriots overseas, making the evening of culture more pleasant.

Delegate of the South side's promotion headquarters Hwang Sok-yong, together with girl poet Kim Il-sin, recited an impromptu poem, burning the hearts of the participants with desire for reunification.

Then followed pleasant popular dances.

Participants depicted a reunification train by dancing, their hands on each other's shoulders to the tune of the song "Reunification Train Runs" in the high spirit of going up to Mt. Halla, breaking through the barrier of division like Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification."

Korean Catholics Hail Success

*SK1908091490 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0848 GMT 19 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 19 (KCNA)—Korean Catholics held a special prayer meeting at the Changchung Cathedral in Pyongyang in congratulation of the success of the Pan- National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country.

Participating in the prayer meeting were believers in Pyongyang and from local areas, believers who have come from different countries as delegates to the pan-national rally and foreign believers.

A sermon was made by Mun Chang-hak, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Roman Catholics Association.

He said that the August 15 pan-national rally held in Panmunjom with the unanimous desire of compatriots in the North, the South and abroad, was a grand reunification festival representing the ardent desire of the nation for reunification, and it was a grand significant gathering which recorded a new chapter in the history of national reunification.

He strongly denounced the South Korean authorities' anti-national, anti-reunification crimes of stopping delegates of the South side from taking part in it.

He called upon all believers at home and abroad to turn out in the noble cause of national reunification.

Overseas Koreans Visit 'Wall'

*SK2008103190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1001 GMT 20 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—Koreans overseas who had participated in the Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country took an on-spot observation of the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique along the whole length of the military demarcation line.

Sin Kui-song, a member of the delegation of the promotion headquarters in Japan for the pan-national rally, said: I know that the existence of the concrete wall is a fait accompli. He added:

When the great leader President Kim Il-song said that the concrete wall should be pulled down and free travel and complete opening realised, the South Korean authorities had the effrontery to tell the lie that there is no concrete wall.

The South Korean authorities are now setting all means of propaganda in motion to describe the concrete wall as a "tank barrier." But it is nothing but a petty trick to bar national reunification and keep the country divided indefinitely.

Chi Chang-po, a compatriot from America, said it is a stark fact that the concrete wall exists but they are now claiming that there is no concrete wall. This is no more than a pretext for their opposition to reunification.

Kim Yong-hui, a member of the delegation of the promotion headquarters in Japan for the pan-national rally, said: The South Korean person in authority has insisted that there is no concrete wall. But this is, indeed, a ludicrous artifice to fool the people. Kim stressed that the wall should be torn down as early as possible and the country reunified without fail.

Another compatriot from America, Yi Tok-mun said if they persistently resort to the petty trick in connection with the wall that actually exists, it will result only in bringing their true color as a liar into a bold relief and it means admitting that they have no willingness for reunification.

Yi Chun-sik, a member of the delegation of compatriots from Europe, said he disgracefully served the puppet Army near the River Imjin in the South before the concrete wall was built. Later, the South Korean authorities built that wall and are now trying to perpetuate national division, he said.

'Truth' of ROK Obstruction

SK2108045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 21 (KCNA)—The KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY on August 20 published a report roundly exposing to the world the truth behind the South Korean authorities' criminal acts in viciously and craftily working to block the Pan-National Rally [PNR] for Peace and Reunification of the Country held at Panmunjom on August 15.

According to the report, the PNR was put on the order of the day after democratic organizations of South Korea initiated it in August, 1988, out of a desire to find a peaceful solution to the military and political questions including the nuclear problems on the Korean peninsula and, in response to it, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) of the DPRK expressed support for it through an open letter dated December 9, 1988, and proposed a working-level contact.

The "coalition for national democratic movement" [National Democratic Alliance of Korea] (Chonminnyon), an umbrella organization of national democratic forces in South Korea, has manifested sympathy with our proposal of a working-level contact ever since it came into being on January 21, 1989. As a result, an agreement was reached between the CPRF and Chonminnyon on holding the working-level contact for the PNR in Panmunjom on March 1. The preliminary talks, however, failed to open owing to the high-handed obstructions of the South Korean authorities. The preliminary talks slated for April 7 were also foiled by the South Korean authorities' fascist outrage.

Meanwhile, the South Korean authorities set out on their repressive offensive to dissolve Chonminnyon. Their moves reached the climax with the Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan's visit to Pyongyang as an occasion.

The patriotic organizations which called for reunification, however, did not cease their struggle to make the PNR a success.

Patriotic reunification organizations in Americas, Europe and Japan formally inaugurated promotion headquarters and preparatory committees of Koreans overseas for the rally, agreed to have the first preliminary contact in West Berlin in June this year and invited delegates of Chonminnyon of the South side to it.

The South Korean authorities, however, blocked the participation of the delegation of the South side's promotion headquarters in the first preliminary contact without any justifiable reason and excuse. Under such conditions, the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters initiated holding the second preliminary contact in Seoul on July 26 and 27 with a single desire to bring the PNR to a success at any cost, and strongly demanded the authorities to allow the delegates of the North and overseas Koreans to participate in the Seoul contact.

This struggle of theirs was greeted with full support from people of all walks of life at home and abroad.

The South Korean authorities were driven into a bottomless bog, meeting with a stronger rejection at home and abroad after the "Democratic Liberal Party" railroaded through the "National Assembly" 26 evil bills including the "broadcasting-related bill" in July.

Finding it difficult to foil the pan-national rally and even maintain their power with the old one-sided policy of suppression, the South Korean rulers resorted to a more crafty trick.

The South Korean chief executive in a "special announcement" on July 20 declared that all parts of South Korea would be "opened" for five days around August 15 only to strengthen the closed-door policy.

On July 21, the South Korean "unification minister" stated that they "intend to allow the participation in the pan-national rally on condition that the North accepts the offer of the grand inter-Korean exchanges of people without condition" and they would "permit" the participation of Chonminnyon in the rally on condition that "all social strata" are included in it.

It means that they would allow the "opening" through Panmunjom only when we accept their "proposal" to frustrate the pan-national rally at Panmunjom. It is, in actuality, a "declaration" of seclusionism meaning that they would not open the door but close it tighter for division.

As for those qualified for participation in the pan-national rally and its operation, they were matters which had already been discussed and decided by Chonminnyon, the sponsor, the North side and the overseas promotion headquarters of the rally.

This notwithstanding, the South Korean authorities said that only when "all social strata" are included in the rally and it is held as a "pure gathering" Chonminnyon would be allowed to participate in it. This was no more than an obtrusive interference and a closed door step in a disguised form.

In fact, the South Korean authorities persistently blocked the southern trip of our side's delegation to the second preliminary contact for the pan-national rally held in Seoul.

Our side, with the aim to hold the pan-national rally in a grand manner with the joint efforts of the North, South and overseas sides, proposed to have the third preliminary contact in Pyongyang and invited the delegates of the South and overseas sides to visit Pyongyang.

The South Korean authorities, however, prevented the participation of the delegation of the South side's promotion headquarters in the Pyongyang contact, ignoring the voices of the entire fellow countrymen.

The 58 organizations which the South Korean authorities tried to thrust into the third preliminary contact and the pan-national rally under the motto of the "representation of all social strata" are anti-communist, anti-reunification and anti-DPRK organizations and "government"-sponsored organizations including the "Korea League for Freedom" the original name of which was "Anti-Communist League."

It was only too natural that such anti-communist, anti-reunification "government"-sponsored organizations were not qualified to participate in the sacred PNR.

Moreover, the delegations to the third preliminary contact in Pyongyang had been designated by the PNR promotion headquarters of the North and the South and overseas, it being the follow-up to the first and the second preliminary contacts.

Nevertheless, they cried for the "participation of people of all walks of life" and blocked the northern trip of the delegation of the South side's promotion headquarters. It is nothing but a deliberate act to frustrate the third contact.

Owing to the obstruction of the South Korean authorities, the third preliminary contact had to be held again as a bilateral contact on August 6 and 7 in the absence of the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters, their seats vacant.

After the third contact, our side made positive efforts to open the road to the South Korean organizations and individuals desirous of reunification and democracy who want to visit the northern half of the country for their lawful participation in the Panmunjom PNR during the "period of the grand inter-Korean exchange of people" which was proclaimed by the South Korean authorities.

However, they threw away like a pair of old shoes their own promise to "allow" the visit to the North by figures of four organizations including "Chonminnyon" and the "National Roman Catholic Priests' Group for the Realization of Justice" and barred the working-level contact of delegates of the North and the above-said organizations.

On August 14, the South Korean authorities posted more than 2,500 police troops of 20 companies around the Imjin house to bar affiliates of South Korean dissident democratic organizations from coming to Panmunjom for the working-level contact with our side.

Their fascist repressive atrocities climaxed on August 15. They posted more than 16,000 police troops along the road to Panmunjom to stop the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters and students from coming to Panmunjom.

The South side's delegation held a starting ceremony at the plaza of Yonsei University that morning with the attendance of more than 15,000 people and attempted to leave for Panmunjom together with more than 10,000 senders-off but failed due to police interception.

The PNR was held grandly with the support of the whole nation and with the encouragement of the world's honest- minded people despite the South Korean authorities' repeated heinous obstructive moves.

Although the official delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters could not participate in it, the rally was adorned as a historical festival of reunification bringing together the minds and intentions of all the reunification forces in the North, South and abroad and demonstrating their common will for reunification at home and abroad.

This foretells that the moves of those who try to block the grand march of the nation toward reunification, challenging the reunification forces in the North, South and abroad are bound to end in failure.

The days of the PNR showed that the South Korean authorities' "proposal for grand inter-Korean exchanges of people" has become a wastepaper and No Tae-u a liar who mocked and insulted the South Korean people.

Indeed, the whole course of the PNR was run through with the fierce confrontation between the line of reunification and the line of division, between the patriotic reunification forces and the separatist forces, and the line of reunification and the patriotic reunification forces decisively overpowered the line of division and the separatist forces and won a shining victory in this confrontation, stresses the KCNA report.

No Strengthening 'Closed-Door'

SK2108043190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 21 Aug 90

["No Tae-u is Liar who Mocked and Insulted South Korean People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 21 (KCNA)—The days of the pan- national rally showed that the South Korean authorities' talk about "grand inter-Korean exchanges of people" has become a wastepaper and No Tae-u is a liar who mocked and insulted the South Korean people, says a report published the Korean Central News Agency on August 20.

The report fully exposes the South Korean authorities' vicious and crafty moves to block the Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country held in a grand manner at Panmunjom on August 15.

It directs attention to the fact that the South Korean chief executive in a "special announcement" July 20 declared that all parts of South Korea would be "opened" for five days around August 15, the day of Korean liberation, only to strengthen the closed-door policy.

Even after making the "proposal for grand inter-Korean exchanges of people", the South Korean authorities blocked the way of the North side's delegation to Seoul for the participation in the second preliminary contact for the preparation of the pan-national rally and mobilized 5,000- strong police to prevent the delegation of the South side's promotion headquarters from participating in the third preliminary contact held in Pyongyang.

On August 15, the day of the pan-national rally, the South Korean authorities blocked the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters and students from coming to Panmunjom with the mobilization of 16,000 police troops.

The "proposal for grand inter-Korean exchanges of people" the South Korean chief executive made all of a sudden on July 20 was not aimed at realising free travel and complete opening between the North and the South but designed to frustrate the August 15 pan-national rally, calm down the public opinion at home and abroad demanding the dismantlement of the concrete wall and free travel and complete opening between the two parts, divert elsewhere the attention of the people from the serious situation inside the "National Assembly" created by the high-handedness of the "Democratic Liberal Party" and bridge over the political crisis, the report says.

Chuche Idea 'Carried' at ROK Universities

SK2108045590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 21 (KCNA)—Articles praising and propagating the immortal chuche idea were carried recently by gazettes of 21 universities across South Korea, greatly stirring up the hearts of the students, according to a report.

The Yonsei University Gazette carried summaries of immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song in "Kim Il-song Works" and the Kukmin University Gazette printed contents of radio programs of the northern half of the country on the chuche idea.

This proves that the activities for the propaganda and dissemination of the chuche idea have become an irresistible trend among the South Korean students in spite of the fascist clique's strict surveillance and persecution.

Pacific Regional Group's Reunification Statement

SK1908084090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 19 (KCNA)—The Pacific Regional Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held a special meeting and released a statement on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Korean liberation. The statement says:

At its special meeting held on August 1, the Pacific Regional Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea adopted a decision on celebrating August 15 on the lapse of 45 years since the Korean people defeated the Japanese imperialists and liberated their country under the inspiring and wise leadership of President Kim Il-song.

The Korean liberation in 1945 opened the new road of building a socialist society in Korea.

We express our high respect for President Kim Il-song who has wisely led the building of a new society in Korea.

We hope for an end to the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea and for the reunification of Korea.

Soviet Science, Technology Delegation Arrives

SK2008152090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—A Soviet Government scientific and technological delegation headed by Nikolay Lavenrov, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, arrived here today.

The delegation was met at the airport by Chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology Yi Cha-pang and Soviet Ambassador here Gennadiy Bartoshevich.

Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam met and had a friendly talk with the delegation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

The Administration Council of the DPRK gave a reception for the delegation in the evening.

Japanese UN Official Promise 'Inconsistent'

SK1808045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA)—The director of the United Nations Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, when he met with the director of the United Nations Treaty Bureau of the South Korean puppet Foreign Ministry in West Germany several days ago, said Japan would "continue to act on socialist countries for an early realisation of South Korea's membership of the United Nations".

His utterances make us cast doubts on the present Korean policy of the Japanese Government authorities, a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN today says, and continues:

These days the high-level authorities of Japan frequently express their readiness for "improvement of relations" with our Republic.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry official's promise to help South Korea "join the UN" is too inconsistent with the position expressed by the high-level authorities of Japan.

"South Korea's UN membership doctrine" is the vital point of the "two Koreas" policy aimed at keeping Korea divided indefinitely.

It is a matter of common knowledge that Japan, a zealous conspirator with the U.S. imperialists in their "two Koreas" policy, has played the role of a shock brigade in the schemes for "South Korea's entry into the UN" and "cross recognition".

Japan intends to use South Korea as an "anti-communist breakwater" and a springboard for its militarist reinvasion by freezing Korea's division through the creation of "two Koreas".

Japan's cry for South Korea's "membership of the UN" cannot be construed otherwise than a graphic expression of its hostile policy towards our Republic.

If Japan is truly interested in the "improvement of relations" with us, it must, first of all, rectify the policy towards Korea and show its sincerity. And it must stop encouraging the South Korean puppet authorities to the division of the country.

Japan Asked To End Ban on Trips to North

OW2008143790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1417 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Aug. 20 KYODO—A North Korean party leader on Monday asked Japan to abolish its passport exclusion on travel to the communist country as part of a drive to improve bilateral relations.

Noting that the improvement of Japan-North Korea ties is the "hope of both nations," Kim yong-sun, a secretary of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee in charge of International Affairs, made the call during a meeting here with visiting Japan Socialist Party (JSP) parliamentarians. Japanese tourists are not allowed to go to North Korea with regular Japanese passports and are required to obtain special permission from the government.

Kim's comment came up during discussions on ways to expand exchanges of personnel between the two parties.

Newspaper Criticizes Japanese Visit to Shrine

SK2108051390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0504 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 21 (KCNA)—Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary of Japan Ishihara told a press conference that it is "unhappy" for neighbouring countries to criticise the visit of the prime minister and Cabinet ministers of Japan to the Yasukuni Shrine and that Japan should refute such criticism. NODONG SINMUN today warns that this cannot be allowed to go unnoticed.

This is in fact an arrogant attitude openly defending the encouragement of militarist ideas in Japan and an act insulting those who voice just criticism with concern over them, says the news analyst, continuing:

The visit of Japanese Cabinet ministers to the Yasukuni Shrine gets more unscrupulous with every passing year. This arouses doubt as to the announcement of the Japanese authorities that they would not pursue a war but make efforts only for peace.

Japanese Cabinet ministers' visit to the shrine means that the Japanese authorities pay an official homage to the top-level war criminals who took the lead in the aggressive acts against Korea, China and other Asian countries. This shows that they acknowledge and beautify the heinous criminal acts of Japanese imperialism and pursue the policy of intensifying militarism. No one can vouch that this attitude would not lead to action for expansionism.

It is particularly noteworthy that Japan is continuously taking an unfriendly attitude toward our republic while helping the U.S. by taking an active part in its Korean strategy, an important component of its anti-socialist strategy, and intensifying military collusion with South Korea. This is one of the factors deepening the division of Korea and aggravating the tension on the Korean peninsula.

If Japan takes again the line contrary to the will and interests of the Asian people including those in neighbouring areas, it will have no good results.

Kim Il-song Greets Afghanistan's Najibullah

SK1808103590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Afghan President Najibullah on the occasion of the 71st anniversary of the independence of Afghanistan.

The message wishes the Afghan president and people greater success in their struggle for defending the country's sovereignty and realising peace, democracy and national reconciliation.

It expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will grow stronger and develop.

Papers Mark Anniversary of Afghan Independence

SK1908091090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0842 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 19 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the 71st anniversary of the independence of Afghanistan.

Since the independence, the course of 71 years traversed by the Afghan people was not smooth, NODONG SINMUN says in a signed article, goes on:

The Afghan Government called upon all forces to display patriotism to terminate the civil war and achieve stability of the country. Measures are taken to ease the situation and realize national reconciliation and stability. This is in accord with the demand and aspiration of the Afghan people and beneficial to the solution of the Afghan problem.

The Korean people express solidarity with the Afghan people in their struggle to achieve national reconciliation and the stabilization of the country and build independent neutral and non-aligned Afghanistan.

We hope that the Afghan problem will be settled at an early date in conformity with the desire and interest of the Afghan people.

MINJU CHOSON says that the Korean people will, in the future, too, make every effort to further strengthen and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples.

Kim Il-song Greets Tanzanian President

SK2008103790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, congratulated Ali Hassan Mwinyi, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, upon his election as chairman of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania.

President Kim Il-song said in his message of greetings dated August 19 that his election was a clear manifestation of the deep trust and expectation of the party and its entire members and the people of Tanzania.

Expressing the belief that the favourably developing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties and two peoples will further strengthen and develop, he sincerely wished greater success to his noble work and the efforts of the Tanzanian people for the independent development of the country under the correct leadership of the revolutionary party of Tanzania with him as its chairman.

Relations Reopened With St. Vincent, Grenadines

SK2008064290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0603 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—A joint communique was published on the reopening of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The governments of the DPRK and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have agreed to resume the diplomatic relations between the two countries, which was established on April 3, 1981, in order to develop the friendly and cooperative relations on the principles of complete equality, mutual benefits, mutual respect for sovereignty and non- interference in each other's internal affairs, the communique says.

The communique was signed in Kingstown August 16 by Yim Ki-taek, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to Guyana, and James F. Mitchell, prime minister and minister of finance and external affairs of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Participants in 'Pyongyang Cup' Soccer Named

SK1908091290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 19 (KCNA)—The international soccer tournament for "Pyongyang Cup" opened at the May Day Stadium on August 18.

Present at the opening ceremony were Syrian, Chinese, Cuban, Soviet and Korean teams, Potonggang team (Korea) and April 25 team (Korea).

The opening ceremony was followed by a game between Korea and Cuba in group A, which ended in a draw.

The tournament will continue till August 27.

Games will be held at the May Day Stadium, the Yanggak-do football stadium and the Sosan football stadium.

Games begin at five P.M. between August 18 and 25.

Newspaper Reviews 1945 Work of Kim Il-song

SK2008104990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article on the 45th anniversary of the publication of "On Building the Party, State and Armed Forces in the Liberated Homeland," an immortal classical work of the great leader President Kim Il-song (August 20, 1945).

The work clearly indicates the line of building a party, state and army to continually push forward the Korean revolution and build a rich, sovereign and independent state by the efforts of the Korean people themselves following the accomplishment of the historical cause of the liberation of the homeland and tasks and ways to implement it.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

We must push ahead dynamically with the building of a party, state and army, relying on the invaluable revolutionary achievements and rich experiences gained in the course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle. Thus we will without doubt creditably fulfil the historic task of building a new Korea."

The work is an encyclopedia of the revolution which comprehensively expounds the line and policy of building the party, power and Army in our own way through the application of the chuche idea and indicates the way of building a society where chuche is established, the article says, and goes on:

The work is, above all, a programme of building a revolutionary party, which shows the way of building a great invincible party of a new type guided by the chuche idea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a unique policy of building a party during the period of the anti- Japanese revolutionary struggle.

In this period he armed workers, peasants and other people of broad strata with the chuche idea and tempered them in the course of the practical struggle, thus laying a solid mass basis for founding a party.

By defining workers, peasants and intellectuals as the component of our party, the great leader provided a basic bedrock for strengthening and developing our party to be a mass political party which has struck deep roots among the masses and a political party with a peculiar component.

The work is also a chuche-orientated programme of building the state which teaches how to build a unique people's power of our own style to meet the aspirations and demand of our people and to suit the specific condition of our country.

In the work the great leader advanced a chuche-based line of building the state—establishing a democratic people's republic representing the interests of the entire people—on the basis of an analysis of the character and duty of our revolution to carry out the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution.

With the chuche-based line of building people's power and the line of building the state, its embodiment, made clear, our people have been able to build a genuine state power in keeping with their aspirations and demands, and a new road to socialism has been cleared for the countries which had once been colonies or semi-colonies.

His work is also a chuche-based programme of building armed forces, which elucidates the policy of building regular revolutionary armed forces in the liberated homeland.

In the work he advanced a new policy of building regular revolutionary armed forces which inherit the revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese struggle and whose noble mission is to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche.

The self-reliant regular Armed Forces have been built by applying this policy. Our people have now their strong Army and have become a dignified people confidently advancing along the road of socialism, smashing any aggressive moves of imperialists.

The building of the great party singleheartedly united around the leader, a sovereign power which shapes fine politics for the popular masses and strong self-reliant defence forces,—these are a convincing proof of the validity of the chuche-based line of building a party, state and army set forth in the work.

* Accelerated Building of 'Tongil Street' Urged

902C258A Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 21 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 June (KCNA)—An on-the-spot workers rally was held in Pyongyang on 20 June to discuss ways of implementing the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's recent instruction to accelerate the construction of Tongil Street.

Comrade Kang Hui-won, a candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Central Committee and vice premier of the State Administration Council; Choe Mun-son, responsible secretary of the WPK Pyongyang City Committee and chairman of the Pyongyang City People's Committee; and other functionaries of agencies concerned joined in the rally with workers taking part in the construction of the capital city.

Choe Mun-song delivered a report, followed by a debate by Hong In-ho, vice chairman of the Pyongyang City Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee; Kang Kwang-su, responsible secretary of the WPK Moranbong District Committee and chairman of the Moranbong District People Committee; and Yo Pok-yong, chairman of the Central District Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee.

The reporter and debaters referred to the fact that on 3 and 4 June the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il inspected the progress of the Pyongyang city project for the construction of 50,000 housing units and gave the militant task to build the roadbed for Tongil Street in a short period of time and vigorously accelerate the housing construction in the capital and outlined concrete measures to implement these tasks.

They pointed out that the task to speedily build the roadbed for Tongil Street is permeated with the warm benevolent desire of our party to provide a more cultured and happier living condition to the citizens of the capital by completing 50,000 housing units as soon as possible, as well as the party's immense trust in and expectations of the builders of the capital city.

Pointing out that the 50,000-unit housing construction project is a great task in the era of the Workers Party conceived and led by our party, the speakers stressed the need to speedily build the roadbed for Tongil Street and bring up a new upsurge in construction.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, pointed out as follows: "Roads occupy an important place in developing the country's economy and providing conveniences to the people in their living."

The reporter and debaters emphasized that all constructors, supporters, and citizens of the capital city, with the spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality toward party decisions, should launch into an all-out assault as one to speedily complete the construction of the basic roadbed, which constitutes an important breakthrough in the Tongil Street construction.

The speakers pointed out that the important task arising in the Tongil Street construction is to build the 1,870-meter basic roadbed and an 880-meter detour roadbed and carry out many underground structure construction projects, such as the construction of rain water drainage networks, city water networks, heat networks, and underground pedestrian passes.

They stressed that these projects require such formidable work as over 50,000 meters of excavation work, disposal of over 26,000 cubic meters of earth, and laying 3,500 cubic meters of stone.

They said that all constructors, their supporters, and citizens of the capital city should more than double the construction speed and complete the enormous construction work ahead of schedule, with the conviction that once the party makes up its mind, they will carry out the decision.

Loftily upholding the party intention, all districts, counties, agencies, and enterprises in the capital should complete their assigned road construction tasks on schedule without fail by mobilizing and utilizing labor and mechanical equipment to the maximum while methodically organizing production on hand and vigorously pushing it forward.

They pointed out that bottlenecks and difficulties may be encountered in removing base rocks and forming the 120-meter wide roadbed running several thousand meters long, and said that all participants in the struggle should raise the flames of the struggle to create the speed of the 1990's in the road construction by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and mass heroism more than ever before.

The reporter and debaters urged all constructors and their supporters to work with the attitude befitting a master and strictly observe the requirements of the technical rules and standard manufactory procedure and insure the quality of construction at a high level when they dig out but a cubic meter of earth or harden but a cubic meter of roadbed, thereby contributing to erecting Tongil Street majestically as a monumental structure adding glory to the era of the Workers Party.

The rally adopted a resolution and an outline of socialist emulation.

---

* Youth Play Role in Light Industry Revolution

902C0245A Pyongyang NODONG CHONGNYON in Korean 2 Jun 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us Step Up the Movement To Win the 'Light Industrial Revolution Youth Spearhead' Title More Vigorously"]

[Text] Today, as the whole party and all our people, full of new faith, are performing feats on the road of the solemn march of the 1990's, upholding the New Year's address of our great leader and the decision of the 17th plenum of the sixth party Central Committee, members of the Socialist Working Youth League [SWYL] and youth are facing the militant task to step up ever more vigorously the movement to win the "Light Industrial Revolution Youth Spearhead" [LIRYS] title and thereby bring about sweeping innovations in the production of mass consumption goods.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out:

"In order to improve the people's living standard, we must launch a light industrial revolution. Only by launching a light industrial revolution and producing various mass consumption goods in larger quantities can we make the livelihood of the people more affluent and civilized."

The movement for the LIRYS title is a mass innovation movement to enhance the role of youth as a spearhead and shock brigade in the implementation of the party's light industrial revolution policy and bring about a turnaround in the production of mass consumption goods, thus having them positively contribute to improving the people's living standard and bringing the true superiority of the socialist system into fuller play.

The dear comrade leader, who is putting all his soul and body into the cause of providing a more affluent and civilized life for our people, taught about waging the LIRYS movement vigorously, with a view to having SWYL members and youth fully display their honor as the youth vanguard in the struggles to implement the light industrial revolution policy.

During the nearly yearlong period of the LIRYS movement kindled by the dear comrade leader, SWYL members and youth in the light industry branch waged dynamic struggles and accomplished many things, holding aloft the militant slogan "Once the Party Decides, We Will Do It!"

Under the high flames of the LIRYS movement, many units and youth have overfulfilled their Third 7-Year People's Economic Plan assignments ahead of schedule and there have been many young inventors whose valuable inventions and creative designs greatly contributed to the light industrial revolution.

Thus, many units and SWYL organizations have won the honorable LIRYS title.

This is a powerful demonstration of the correctness and vitality of the LIRYS movement.

Presently, the fighting spirit of SWYL members and youth in the light industry branch is very high.

The party expects that youth at light industry plants will, as they did in the past, take the lead in the struggles as a spearhead and a shock brigade and uplift the livelihood of the people even higher as soon as possible.

It is an expression of the dear comrade leader's profound political trust and great expectations for our youth with their inexhaustible creative resources and talents.

SWYL members and youth in the light industry branch must keep the flames of the LIRYS movement raging higher and bring about an epochal turnaround in the production of mass consumption goods, always full of confidence, fight and faith.

Most important in stepping up the LIRYS movement ever more vigorously is to fulfill the assigned quotas unconditionally and without fail in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

To keep producing and economizing in the revolutionary spirit of self- reliance and fortitude is the demand of the party.

SWYL members and youth in the light industry branch must fulfill their unit and individual quotas by the day, the month and the quarter unconditionally and thoroughly, holding aloft the slogan "Let Us Live and Work in the Same Spirit and Mettle as in the Postwar Great Chollima Upswing Period!" and bringing the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude into full play.

Especially, SWYL members and youth in this branch must overcome any bottlenecks and difficulties arising with the uncompromising faith and will that "Once the Party Decides, We Will Do It" and further intensify movements to look for inner reserves.

SWYL members and youth at light industry plants will thus fully meet the demand of the people for light industrial products in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

For a more vigorous LIRYS movement, it is an important requirement to have efficient facility management and technological control to ensure full-capacity operations for all the machines available.

Efficient facility management and technological control constitutes an important guarantee for increased production by an effective use of the light industry foundations that have already been laid.

SWYL members and youth, keeping in mind that each and every facility we have is permeated with the warm benevolence of our party that strives to make our people's livelihood even better, should demonstrate their firm loyalty through the facility management work with an attitude befitting the master.

SWYL members and youth at light industry plants must do the repair and maintenance work in a timely fashion. They must also be ready with enough spare parts at all times.

Also, in the utilization of facilities, they must thoroughly comply with the technical specifications and standard manufactory procedures and establish strict systems and order.

To step up vigorously the movement to win the "Youth Machine of Loyalty Learning From No. 26 Lathe" title is an important method to ensure that all the facilities are fully operated at full capacity.

By stepping up the movement for the "Youth Machine of Loyalty Learning From No. 26 Lathe" title, youth in the light industry branch must keep machines and facilities ready for full operations at full capacity at all times.

The quality of products must be improved and new varieties of goods must be produced in larger quantities and with better quality.

The quality of products is one of the major indicators of the levels of economic, technologic developments and civilization of the producing country.

Goods of poor quality are good for nothing no matter how much we produce. They cannot show the superiority of the socialist system of our country.

Youth at light industry plants must fully understand how important it is to improve the quality of goods they turn out. They need to produce them earnestly, nicely and in good quality by putting all their hearts into each and every piece of them.

They must proceed with systematic preparations for designs and products to be entered in the "Second National Youth Exhibition of Mass Consumption Goods Designs and New Products" to contribute to producing and supplying various quality products in larger quantities so as to meet the daily increasing demand of the people both in variety and taste.

Poorly packed goods are bound to lose their value, no matter how good their basic quality might be.

As made clear by the party, youth must upgrade facilities for the packing of products, ensuring solidity, neatness and sanitary conditions according to specifications. They must improve the packing service decisively to guarantee convenience in hauling, storage and the consumer use of the goods.

For a vigorous LIRYS movement, the role of SWYL organizations and functionaries must be enhanced decisively.

As in all other activities, success in our carrying through the intent of the party for a light industrial revolution thoroughly and thus in bringing about a new turnaround in the production of mass consumption goods largely depends on how SWYL organizations and functionaries plan and coordinate their organizational and political work to arouse our youth ideologically.

With their infinite loyalty to the party and the leader, SWYL functionaries must personally go into the seething sites of production, stage political propaganda and economic agitation in an ambitious manner and lead youth in making a breakthrough in any difficult task by setting personal examples of hard working.

They must monitor progress in the LIRYS movement regularly, generalize experiences and correct biased tendencies, if any, in a timely fashion.

SWYL members and youth in the light industry branch will step up the movement to win the LIRYS title ever more vigorously, upholding, with all their hearts, the decision of the 17th plenum of the sixth party Central Committee on expanding production and economization to the maximum. They will thus accelerate the light industrial revolution and materialize a new turnaround in the production of mass consumption goods, and by doing so, bring greater joy and satisfaction to our great leader and the dear comrade leader.

South Korea

South Decides on Delegates to High-Level Talks

SK2008105890 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Today, the government chose our side's seven delegates to participate in the first round of full-dress talks of the North-South high-level talks, which will be held in Seoul beginning 4 September.

Our side's seven delegates are: Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, chief delegate; Minister of the National Unification Board Hong Song-chol, deputy chief delegate; Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Chong Ho-kun; Vice Minister of the Economic Planning Board Yi Chin-sol; Assistant to the President for Foreign and National Security Affairs Kim Chong-hwi; Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Yi Pyong-yong; and researcher of Foreign and Security Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Yim Tong-won.

Now that the government has decided on the list of delegates, it will hold a working-level contact on communications and aviation with the North Korean side as soon as possible, so as to finish discussing procedural questions, including the exchanges of visits of the delegation and television coverage.

Because the North Korean side is taking a negative attitude toward the North-South high-level talks since the planned joint pan-national rally was foiled, the government has decided to create a positive atmosphere through official and unofficial channels, so as to hold the North-South high-level talks.

The first round of full-dress talks of the North-South high-level talks will be held in Seoul beginning 4 September and lasting three days and four nights. At least two military delegates can attend the talks.

North Proposes 23 Aug Contact

SK2108034790 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Today, through a telephone message, Choe Pong-chun, responsible liaison officer for the North side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks, proposed contact between responsible liaison officer's on 23 August at the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom, to discuss working-level issues regarding the high-level talks.

In relation to this, Kim Yong-hwan, the South Korean side's responsible liaison officer, sent a telephone message to North Korea's responsible liaison officer Choe Pong-chun today, notifying him that three people from the communications field, three from the aviation field, and himself will go to the conference room on the day the North side had designated for the contact.

Therefore, it is expected that in the 23 August North-South liaison officer's contact, detailed procedures will be discussed on working-level issues concerning the fields of communication and aviation for the upcoming high-level talks slated for 4 September.

NAEWOE Views North's Unification Alliance

SK2108025090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0212 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea announced on Monday that it has formed a "Pan-national Alliance for the Unification of the Fatherland" at the request of a South Korean novelist, according to NAEWOE PRESS. The organizing committee for the pan-national rally at the truce village of Panmunjom made the announcement, NAEWOE said.

The alliance was proposed by Hwang Suk-yong, a best-selling writer who went to Pyongyang to attend the Panmunjom rally as a self-proclaimed representative of South Korea without government permission, and accepted by Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the organizing committee, the semi-official North Korea watcher said.

After Hwang visited Pyongyang in April 1989 to discuss reunification, he stayed in West Germany to escape arrest on charges of violating the National Security Law by making an illegal trip to North Korea.

The alliance has 14 co-chairmen—four each from South and North Korea and six from overseas. A South Korean Government official said forming the alliance is part of North Korea's efforts to confuse inter-Korean discussion of unification.

North Korea named three northern co-chairmen—Ho Tam, Chang Chol and Yo Yon-ku—and the South Korean co-chairmen will be designated by the South Korean co-organizers of the Panmunjom rally, NAEWOE reported. Hwang was appointed alliance spokesman, it said. The alliance will have working-level panels such as a central committee and an executive standing committee, NAEWOE said.

Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the North Korean organizing committee, said the alliance "has emerged as the main actor for solving the problems of unification and brought a turning point for dialogue between the masses," breaking South Korea's principles that the government should be the sole channel for inter-Korean dialogue, NAEWOE said.

The government official worried that the alliance could have a strong impact on dialogue between the two parts of Korea.

Chonminnyon, the dissident South Korean group that was a co-organizer of the Panmunjom rally, has denied Hwang's claim that he was its representative to the rally. A Chonminnyon delegation was barred from visiting North Korea for the Aug. 13-17 rally as North Korea refused to guarantee the safety of the visitors. President No Tae-u had proposed free travel for five days from Aug. 13, but no one could cross the border due to disagreements on procedures.

Chonminnyon, the South's largest dissident organization, has yet to comment on the alliance.

New Dissident Party Leader Views Unification

SK1908002190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] The leader of a dissidents' embryonic party claimed yesterday that the unification policies of the government, including inter-Korean exchange programs, should be worked out on the basis of the public opinion.

Yi U-chae, co-chairman of the preparatory committee for the founding of the "People's Party (Minjung-dang)," argued that the government has presented unification policies unilaterally.

In a press conference, the dissident leader proposed the formation of a "consultative council for national unification policy" to be made up of government and political party officials.

Then, he urged North Korea to "come up with a positive attitude to realizing exchanges between the South and the North, recognizing that various exchanges will be helpful to easing tensions and to national unification."

Pointing out that national unification can be prompted with both the South and the North understanding each other, Yi asked the governments of the two sides to allow their people to see and listen to each other's TV and radio programs.

North Said To Accuse U.S. of Provocations

SK2008123290 Seoul YONHAP in English 1224 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 20 (YONHAP)—North Korea accused Monday the United States and South Korea of intensifying serious military provocations that may cause "unexpected conflicts leading to the brink of war."

North Korea's senior delegate to the Military Armistice Commission (MAC), Maj. Gen. [Major General] Choe Ui-ung, said in the 457th MAC meeting held at the truce village of Panmunjom that the U.S. and South Korean Air Forces had conducted air exercises and naval intrusions into North Korean waters during the past month.

Choe reportedly claimed in the meeting that hundreds of American F-16s, FA-18s and A-6s and South Korean combat planes carried out aerial war games simulating a surprise attack on the North on more than 200 occasions since late July.

But those North Korean accusations were denied as "a mix of old charges and references to routine military exercises" by U.S. Rear Adm. [Admiral] Larry G. Vogt, senior United Nations Command member of the Commission. Vogt suggested that both sides reinstitute the joint observer teams (JOT) for mutual and reciprocal inspections. His proposal went unnoticed by the North Korean side.

The North Korean charges came two weeks before the unprecedented inter-Korean prime ministers talks slated in Seoul. North Korea hinted at its intention to cancel the talks by sending recently a letter to the U.N. Security Council claiming that the South began an arms buildup on July 27 or one day after the accord on prime ministers talks was signed.

Korean Jurisdiction Over U.S. Troops Expanded

SK2108100990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0808 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have agreed to expand Korean jurisdiction over U.S. soldiers and strengthen customs procedures for goods imported by the U.S. forces, a Korean Government official said Tuesday.

He said a memorandum of agreement would be exchanged by the two governments next month as they have completed negotiations, begun in 1988, on revising eight articles of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).

"Emphasis of this revision is to eliminate inequality between the two sides," the official said.

SOFA was established under the mutual defense treaty between South Korea and the United States signed on Oct. 1, 1953, and was revised in 1966.

When the revisions take effect, law enforcement agents will have more power over U.S. military personnel suspected of crimes due to the elimination of provisions that give jurisdiction over soldiers and dependents to the Americans automatically unless the Korean justice minister requests it in writing.

The revisions will add hit-and-run accidents and other light offenses to the list of crimes in which the Korean Government has prime jurisdiction. Other crimes are endangering national security, murder, robbery and rape.

The Korean authorities can also appeal if they are dissatisfied with the outcome of a court case.

By revising Article 9, which covers customs clearance and tariffs, Korea and the United States will strengthen controls on imports, and changes to Article 17 will ease restrictions on the right of Korean employees to engage in job actions.

Communications Minister Meets Iranian Counterpart

SK2008094990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0905 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug 20 (YONHAP)—Yi U-chae, communications minister, met with Sayyed Mohammad Gharazi, Iranian post, telegraph and telephone minister, on Monday to discuss ways to help rebuild communications facilities in Iran.

Expected To Sign Accord

SK2108013590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] Korea and Iran will soon sign a protocol on increased cooperation in the communications sector, officials said.

Communications Minister Yi U-chae met with his Iranian counterpart Sayyed Mohammad Gharazi yesterday to talk about the possibility of increased Korean participation in Iran's communications projects, a spokesman said.

He said the meeting was attended by some 20 officials of the two countries.

After holding detailed discussions on various issues, the two ministers are expected to sign an agreement Wednesday, the spokesman said.

He said the Iranian minister expressed the hope that Korean companies will participate in a variety of rehabilitation projects in the war-torn Middle East country.

"Minister Gharazi voiced his hope for lavish support for improvements in the telecommunications field and post services," the spokesman said.

Officials said the forthcoming accord will embrace the construction of a research and development center in Iran and the "final conditions" under which the Iranian government will purchase Korean-made telecommunications equipment.

The Iranian side reportedly wants to purchase telecommunications equipment from Korea at lower prices, the officials said.

Gharazi came to Seoul Sunday for a five-day visit, and is to call on Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun and the minister of energy and resources. He will also visit several telecommunications-related companies.

Iran's vice minister of communications visited Seoul last March.

Iran has purchased $137 million worth of communications cables from Korea until last year. Officials said $49 million were from Goldstar Cable Co. and $88 million from Taihan Electric Wire Co.

Pak Chol-on Visits Kim Yong-sam; Comments

SK1708024590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 17 (YONHAP)—Former first state minister for political affairs Pak Chol-on met with ruling party executive chairman Kim Yong-sam on Friday to defuse a row over remarks on political realignment that were seen as an attack on Kim. Pak said after leaving Kim's house that he told the leader of the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) that he had been misreported.

"I explained to him that the press reports on my remarks were magnified and were different from my real intention," Pak said.

He also denied using the words "second political realignment" or indirectly criticizing Kim during an interview on Thursday. "Now is the time for the DLP to enhance the party's solidarity under the leadership of the executive chairman," Pak said.

Pak, an influential politician and a close associate of President No Tae-u, was reported as saying during the interview that the merger of three parties in February cannot be the ultimate and complete model for Korea, which is in a time of transition in many ways. Pak played a major role in the February realignment but was forced to resign from the cabinet in April after losing a battle with Kim for control of the ruling party.

He was also quoted as saying "party leaders appear to make use of provincialism to continue to enjoy their vested rights," which was taken to mean Kim Yong-sam and DLP Co-Chairman Kim Chong-pil. Pak said the merger was designed to promote national reconciliation but had in reality stimulated regionalism. His unexpected visit to Kim is seen as a gesture made out of fear that his attack on the No. 2 man in the ruling party would trigger a new intra-party feud, analysts say.

Opposition Parties Disagree on Merger Leadership

SK2108083290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 21 (YONHAP)—The splinter Democratic Party [DP] of Yi Ki-taek said Tuesday that it will propose that Yi and Kim Tae-chung, head of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], be excluded from leadership positions after the two parties merge. Kim's party said it might reject the idea, accusing Yi of lacking the will to stand up to the Democratic Liberal Party.

The DP proposed that the new party have a five-member leadership headed by a dissident, with Kim and Yi as advisers. A collective leadership headed by Yi, with Kim and the dissident as advisers, or a three-member leadership council headed by Yi with Kim as an ordinary member, might also be acceptable, according to a DP official.

Kim's party denounced the proposal as self-righteously ignoring the fact that it has 70 National Assembly seats while the DP has only eight. Most of the rest of the 299 seats in the unicameral parliament are held by the ruling party.

Officials from the two parties and a dissident group promoting a unified opposition were to meet to discuss the merger later in the day but are unlikely to agree as the two parties are far apart on the leadership question, casting a dark shadow over the prospects for an alliance.

Kim, Yi and Kim Kwan-sok, chairman of the council for promoting a unified opposition party, agreed in principle to form an opposition alliance by merging their three political forces to struggle against No's huge ruling party, which has 218 seats by virtue of the artificial merger of the old ruling party and two opposition parties in February. But the PPD and DP have been at odds over various matters concerning the alliance, which could be a strong challenge to the government.

The PPD leader, in a dramatic gesture of his determination to realize the merger, declared he was ready to give the party presidency to Yi, but the DP showed a cool response. DP members worry that they would be unable to control the new party even if Yi were party president because the PPD would have an overwhelming majority. Some DP members even call for Kim Tae-chung to renounce any form of the leadership of the new party, setting a major obstacle to the integration. Kim stands firm against the call.

The new proposal on the leadership system reflects the DP desire to prevent Kim from controlling the new party, PPD officials said.

Opposition Party Again Calls for Elections

SK2108072790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0519 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 21 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) renewed its call for dissolution of South Korea's National Assembly and general elections on Tuesday.

In a statement to mark the date a month ago that all 70 PPD lawmakers resigned from the assembly, the PPD said the government and ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) had shown no sign of repentance and were aggravating the "collapse of politics."

"Through the month-long painful struggle, we have made the ruling party recognize that replacing the current presidential government system by a parliamentary system is out of the question. We have also made them recognize the need to implement, even partly, local autonomy," the PPD statement said. It said the DLP should disband the assembly instantly and take responsibility for the political instability caused by its formation in January.

PPD lawmakers tendered their resignations to speaker Pak Chun-kyu to protest the DLP's railroading of more than 20 bills through the assembly.

The DLP was born on Jan. 22 in a merger of President No Tae-u's Democratic Justice Party, Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Chong-pil's New Democratic Republican Party. The DLP has 218 out of the 299 assembly seats.

Also on Tuesday, key PPD post-holders decided to form a seven-member committee to facilitate development of the west coast. The government announced that 22.3 trillion won will be spent on the west coast by 2001, but failed to get a budget appropriation, the PPD said. The committee will be headed by party adviser Hong Yong-ki.

Dissidents Criticize Acquittal in Torture Case

SK1808060490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0526 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 18 (YONHAP)—A dissident group blasted the Seoul Appellate Court on Saturday for acquitting four former senior police officers of charges that they conspired to conceal the cause of death of a student who died during interrogation.

"The court's ruling defied the lessons of the June 1987 national democratization movement and blockaded the ongoing democratization process," said the organization, set up to commemorate the death of Seoul National University student Pak Chong-chol.

Pak was tortured to death in early 1987 by police seeking information on anti-government activities, but it was claimed he died of a heart attack. Soon after, National Police Chief Kang Min-chang and three others were indicted on cover-up charges.

"The court excluded critical evidence against the defendants in the ruling. The people will not trust the ruling, which is derived from the dismal operations of the Sixth Republic (the current government)," the group charged.

"The prosecution should immediately make an appeal to the Supreme Court and the Judiciary has to stop issuing a green pass to infringe upon human rights."

Kang and his co-defendants—Pak Cho-won, 63, Yu Chong-pang, 52, and Pak Won-taek, 50—were acquitted on appeal Friday of charges that they tried to cover up the cause of Pak's death as heart failure. The court ruled there was insufficient evidence they had attempted a cover-up.

Defense Ministry 'Pushing' for Increased Budget

SK1508024790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT 15 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 15 (YONHAP)—A heated dispute is brewing between top economic policy coordinators and the Defense Ministry over budget allocations.

The ministry is pushing for a 26 percent increase in military spending while the Economic Planning Board (EPB) is trying to hold them to under 10 percent, EPB sources said on Wednesday. The ministry has requested 6,887.3 billion won (9.63 billion U.S. dollars) for defense in the 1991 fiscal year, up 26 percent from this year, saying the money is needed for a long-term military modernization program and to pay wages and food bills.

The EPB sources say they are reluctant to increase defense spending so much when money is urgently required for infrastructure such as roads, ports, railroads and industrial complexes. They said it is almost impossible to increase defense spending more than 10 percent even though the budget will grow 19 percent to 20 percent next year. Outlay in the social overhead capital sector this year is slated at 1,104.9 billion won, a marginal increase from last year's 964.8 billion won.

Burma

Leaders Meet Thai Border Talks Delegation

BK1608170190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 16 Aug 90

[Text] General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], received a delegation led by Lieutenant General San Siphen, commander of the No. 1 Army Region of the Royal Thai Army, which had attended the fourth meeting of the Myanmar [Burma]-Thai Border Committee at 1000 today at the Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense.

Present at the meeting with General Than Shwe were Major General Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1; Major General Tin U, secretary-2; Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command; Major Maung Aye, commander of the Eastern Military Command; Nyunt Swe, Myanmar ambassador to Thailand; U Ohn Kyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Colonel Thura Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Division.

The Thai delegation and its leader left Yangon at 1115 this morning in a special plane from the Royal Thai Army. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Maj Gen Maung Aye, commander of the Eastern Military Command; and Myanmar members of the border committee.

The deputy leader of the Thai delegation and remaining members of the delegation left in a special Myanmar military plane for Pagan and Mandalay today.

Delegation Departs

BK1908143390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] The Thai delegation that attended the fourth meeting of the Thai-Myanmar [Burma] Border Committee in Moulmein left Yangon [Rangoon] by special plane this afternoon. The delegation was seen off at the Yangon airport by Major General Maung Aye, commander of the Eastern Military Command, and the Myanmar members of the border committee.

During its stay in Myanmar, the Thai delegation, headed by Lieutenant General San Siphen of the Royal Thai Army, held cordial and friendly talks at the Southeast Military Command Headquarters in Moulmein with the Myanmar side headed by Major General Maung Aye and Brigadier General Soe Myint, commander of the Southeast Military Command. While in Moulmein, the Thai delegation visited the Kyaikami Pagoda and Setse Beach.

On 16 and 17 August, the Thai delegation toured Mandalay and Pagan Nyaung-u. In Mandalay, Major General Tun Kyi, commander of the Central Military Command, held a dinner party for the Thai group.

Singapore Trade Delegation Arrives 20 Aug

BK2008153690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. F. Chandra Das, member of the Singapore Parliament and chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Defense and Foreign Affairs, and a trade delegation arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon for talks on improving bilateral trade.

The delegation was greeted at the airport by Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; U Aung Kyi, director general of the Directorate of Trade; U Ba Thwin, director general of the International Organizations and Economics Department; Mr. Lam Peck Heng, Singaporean charge d'affaires; and responsible personnel.

Brig Gen Abel hosted a dinner in honor of the delegation at the Karaweik Hall in the evening. The delegation will stay in Myanmar [Burma] until 24 August.

Saw Maung Receives President of Amoco

BK1808080090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] received Mr. Richard M. Morrow, president of the Amoco Corporation; Mr. (Patrick Joseph) Early, president of the Amoco Production Company, and Mr. (Robert Lawrence Landon), Amoco Production Company Regional Director for Europe, Latin America, and the Far East, at the Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defense at 1400 today.

Present at the meeting were General Than Shwe, vice chairman of SLORC; Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, member of SLORC and minister for energy and mines; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC, and U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister, French Envoy Discuss Gulf

BK2008123590 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 085[illegible] GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 20 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and France want members of the United Nations (UN) and the international community to adhere to the resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council in resolving the Gulf crisis. Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said any action other than that adopted by the UN Security Council would aggravate the situation faced by the Gulf nations and there was a possibility it would provoke Iraq.

"If this happens, other matters will arise and will certainly lead [to] an undesirable situation," he told reporters after holding talks with the French presidential special envoy, Jean-Noel De Lipkwoski, here Monday.

Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, the UN Security Council decided that UN members and the international community should impose economic sanctions, including an arms embargo against Iraq.

Abu Hassan said his talks with Lipkwoski centred on the Gulf crisis and the Cambodian problem.

Lipkwoski expressed France's appreciation of Malaysia's support fo the UN Security Council and the role Malaysia was playing in efforts towards resolving the Gulf crisis, he added. He said France and Malaysia shared common views and abided by resolutions adopted by the world body.

Abu Hassan said he asked France, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, to play its role in influencing members and the international community to abide by the Security Council resolutions and not to resort to unilateral action to resolve the crisis. He added that Malaysia and France felt whatever action taken, priority should be given to the safety of citizens of both countries in west Asia and the implications to the world.

On Cambodia, Hassan said Malaysia was confident France could influence the world body so that the seat to be "vacated" by the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) would be given to the Cambodian supreme national council, expected to be formed by the four warring factions in Cambodia.

Lipkwoski, who held similar talks with Thailand, will leave for Indonesia on a similar mission.

Four Detained Under Internal Security Act

BK2008135990 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Aug 90 p 1

[By Joseph Bingkasan]

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Sat.—The four men arrested under the Internal Security Act [ISA] for alleged involvement in a move to pull Sabah out of Malaysia have been ordered to be detained for two years. They are ASP [Assistant Superintendent of Police] Abdul Rahman Ahmad, Kadazan Dusun Cultural Association [KDCA] Executive Secretary and Sabah Air Sdn Bhd [Sabah Air Co., Ltd.] Chairman Benedict Topin, and former policemen Damit Undikai and Albinus Yudah.

They were said to be involved in a plot to take Sabah out of Malaysia through the use of a secret military force and foreign mercenaries.

Deputy Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Mohamed Noor told a Press conference today [18 August] that the detention orders for the four were issued by the Home Ministry on the recommendation of the police. "In accordance with the law, the detention orders are subject to review within six months," he said.

ASP Abdul Rahman, 51, attached to the Special Branch at the State police headquarters in Kepayan, was picked up by police officers from Bukit Aman from his office on June 7.

Topin, 41, was also arrested by police officers from Bukit Aman as he was going to the KDCA headquarters in Jalan Penampang on May 25. Yudah, also 41, was arrested the same day as he was on his way for a routine medical check-up at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital here.

Damit, 54, who was identified by police as head of the intelligence section of the plot, was arrested on May 18.

Tan Sri Abdul Rahim said the detention orders were issued to the four upon expiry of the 60 days' mandatory detention under the ISA. "By arresting the four men, police have prevented the matter from causing tension among the people." He said the four were suspected to be involved in the plot to take Sabah out of Malaysia, a move mooted by a group of people which has been in existence since 1986.

He said the police have evidence that the plot was a political dream of certain quarters.

"Police also know the identity of a Caucasian, whom police investigations established to be a mercenary, but at this stage we will not seek assistance from Interpol to locate him." He said police believed that some members of the group were still at large in the State.

"These people, including the Caucasian, are now keeping a low profile ... Just let the police handle this matter."

Singapore

Joint Naval Exercise With Brunei Starts 20 Aug

BK2008124790 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] Eight ships from the Singapore and Brunei navies start a week-long naval exercise in the waters off Brunei today. The exercise, codenamed Pelican 12/90, is the 12th in a series of naval exercises between the two navies.

The exercise is aimed at developing and practising common operational procedures, and enhancing mutual co-operation and understanding between the two navies, said a statement from the Defence Ministry.

It added that Pelican 12/90 will reaffirm the importance of the warm and longstanding ties between the Singapore Armed Forces and the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

Eight ships will be taking part in the exercise, with four each from the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and the Flotilla RBAF. The ships will be carrying out, among other things, weapon firing and encounter or two-sided exercises.

The Commanding Officer of the Flotilla RBAF, Lieutenant-Colonel Mohamed Shahri, will inaugurate the exercise today. Major Haji Jamaludin of the Flotilla RBAF will be commanding the Task Group while the Commanding Officer of 183/186 Squadron RSN, Major Philip Choo, will be the deputy commander of the Task Group.

The exercise ends next Monday [27 August].

Lee Kuan Yew Scheduled To Visit USSR

BK2108131290 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union, probably next month, a spokesman for the Soviet Embassy here said yesterday. He added that the visit would probably last a few days and that "a September date cannot be excluded".

REUTER, quoting officials and diplomats, reported on Sunday that Mr Lee's trip would take place in September, one month before his visit to China. It also quoted unnamed officials and diplomats as saying that the Prime Minister would visit Hong Kong in October and Japan in November.

Mr Lee last visited Moscow in September 1970. Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov was in Singapore in February as part of an eight-day tour of the region and held talks with Mr Lee on improving bilateral economic and trade ties.

REUTER also reported that Mr Lee's visit to China would take place immediately after his trip to Hong Kong.

Daily Comments on Indonesian Army Officer's Rise

BK2108081190 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Aug 90 p 13

[Text] The rise of Major-General Wismoyo Arismunandar earlier last week to a key position within the Indonesian Armed Forces [ABRI] has brought into focus yet another man to watch in Indonesia. Maj-Gen Wismoyso's move to the post as commander of the Army Strategic Command (Kostrad) has long been expected. It is widely believed that bigger things are in store for him.

Maj-Gen Wismoyo, a former Special Forces chief, was moved to Kostrad on Thursday [9 August] from his post as commander of the central Java Diponegoro division. His route to the top of the military hierarchy is interestingly similar to that of President Suharto's when he was still a serving senior officer.

At the rate Maj-Gen Wismoyo is climbing, the likelihood of him eventually ending up as Armed Forces chief should not be ruled out.

President Suharto was commander of the Diponegoro division before he became commander of Kostrad, a unit so crucial that it has a history of being pivotal in the nation's political development. It was in that commanding position that he crushed the coup attempt by the Indonesian Communist Party in 1965.

Maj-Gen Wismoyos owes much of his ascendancy to his ability as a senior officer.

A man who plays hard contact sports like karate, judo and boxing, he enjoys one other factor which most other officers do not share: family ties with President Suharto. The 50-year-old general is married to Mrs Suharto's younger sister. The two-stars general however resents any suggestion that his climb is due to the family bond, implying that his capability as a commander should not be taken lightly.

His rise to Kostrad comes at a crucial time, that is three years before a presidential election is held in 1993. At the ceremony to announce his Kostrad post, Army Chief-of-Staff General Edi Sudrajat called on the military to be prepared and vigilant during the general election in 1992 and the presidential election the following year.

Gen Sudrajat described them as important events, and it is not difficult to see why. And the implication of the importance of Gen Wismoyo's appointment as the new Kostrad chief is also not missed. It is however part of a larger military reshuffle, some of which coincided with his new appointment, and with others still expected to come.

According to the Indonesian weekly Tempo, a big shake-up is likely to be announced in the run-up to Oct 5 when the Armed Forces celebrates its anniversary.

If that happens, attention will be placed on whether the posts of army chief of staff and deputy army chief of staff would be affected, and whether a new post of deputy commander-in-chief (wakil pangab) will be created.

The present deputy army chief is Lieutenant-General A.S. Rajagukguk.

The other military officers who were moved around together with Maj-Gen Wismoyo were the commander of the Jakarta Command, Major-General Suryadi Sudirya, who succeeded Major-General Asmono at ABRI headquarters as assistant to the chief of staff for socio-political affairs.

Maj-Gen Asmono has been made assistant chief of intelligence at ABRI headquarters.

Cambodia

Little Progress at Cambodian Talks in New York

BK1808034090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Aug 90 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bakaert under the "Cambodian Diary" rubric, entitled: "Little Achieved in New York"]

[Text] After the shock of James Baker's announcement last July in Paris that the United States was ready to talk to Vietnam about Cambodia and how to prevent a return of the Khmer Rouge, came the action: the first round of talks, in New York. How did it go? Well, it all depends on whom you talk to.

According to a senior Vietnamese diplomatic source, the first round of talks between US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific, Kenneth Quinn, and Vietnamese Ambassador to the United Nations, Trinh Xuan Lang, went "very well." American diplomatic sources however, appear less optimistic.

The Vietnamese delegates explained their country's position, a US State Department official said, but there was "absolutely nothing new there."

The Vietnamese side, according to a US source, insisted on the sovereignty of the Cambodians, pleaded for a minimal role of the United Nations, and argued that the proposed National Supreme Council (NSC) should be strictly based on the Tokyo agreement.

Vietnam also suggested that the next meeting should take place in Bangkok on Friday, August 10, a few days after the first meeting in New York. "Bangkok would be easier for us than New York," the Vietnamese ambassador to the UN said, "because we have better communications with Hanoi." The US understood this point, but last Friday was certainly too early, given the modest achievements of the first session.

So far no date has been fixed for another meeting, although both sides seem to have agreed it should take place before the next session of the Permanent Five, due to meet at the end of August in New York.

The American side was obviously disappointed at what they saw as Vietnam's lack of flexibility regarding the Cambodian question. In Vietnam's view, the fact that there was a meeting with American officials is already progress.

"We should concentrate on the elections," a senior Vietnamese source said. "There is a general agreement on the need for general elections," he explained, "and this would be the best way to avoid all kinds of small problems regarding other issues, like the composition of the Supreme National Council."

Vietnam would of course like to discuss the question of normalisation with Washington, the lifting of the economic embargo, the obstacle put by the US on world credits to Hanoi. Some American sources warn that Vietnam has never been, and still is not, a priority of the present administration. Nor is Cambodia.

The change of attitude is, first of all, a matter of domestic policy—a reaction to pressures from Congress regarding the question of the Khmer Rouge. And in view of the progress made on the battlefield by the Khmer Rouge, the Bush administration wants to be in a position to escape criticism from its own public opinion should the Khmer Rouge come back to power, one American source explained.

Nevertheless, a State Department source said, "If during the second meeting we find Vietnam ready to seriously discuss the Cambodian problem, and start a real negotiation, it could in the long run change for the better our entire relations with Vietnam."

State Department officials also denied a story published in Hanoi recently by the Army daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, which claimed that US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Solomon would soon make a secret visit to Phnom Penh.

Such a visit would only be considered "if serious progress is made in our talks with Vietnam," the US source said. "For the moment we have absolutely no reason to go to Phnom Penh."

ASEAN sources, meanwhile, have been talking with representatives of the three resistance factions, and found them "realistic." A meeting of the resistance is planned in Beijing before the end of August. Does it mean there is a chance to see a Supreme National Council before the next General Assembly of the United Nations? The resistance appears reluctant. Like China, the Khmer Rouge and their allies want an SNC with some power and control over at least some of the key ministries, like Defence, Interior, Foreign Affairs and Information.

Resistance sources insist that a ceasefire and an SNC would at this stage appear as a victory for Phnom Penh. The Khmer population, a Khmer Rouge source claimed, is increasingly opposed to Vietnam and the Phnom Penh regime.

A Vietnamese source believes it would be better to maintain the present administration for the time being, but with some presence of the United Nations, "to eliminate any suspicion the opposition may have about the administration." But at the moment, a more urgent task is to stop the fighting which is spreading all over the country.

Sihanouk Statement on Meeting Called Pretext

BK1808103390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Station commentary: "Is it a Condition or a Pretext?"]

[Text] On Monday 13 August, one day after arriving in Beijing, Samdech Sihanouk issued a statement. In this statement, the samdech said that it is necessary, before all else, to obtain the complete withdrawal from Cambodia of all Vietnamese militarymen and immigrants. The samdech also said that this must be carried out first, before the implementation of the supreme national council [SNC], so that the SNC may function properly.

Is this a condition or a pretext for your highness to avoid implementing the Tokyo joint communique?

Everyone remembers well that during the past two months, while the world public, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the ASEAN countries, tried to stimulate the establishment of the SNC, Samdech Sihanouk resorted to all kinds of maneuvers in an attempt to prevent the formation of this organization, which will represent independence, sovereignty, neutrality, and national unity.

Outwardly, Samdech Sihanouk has carried out his demagogic propaganda claiming that he has not rejected nor violated the Tokyo joint communique. However, judging from his deeds, one can see that he has openly dishonored the joint communique.

Lately, while the world community was calling for the establishment of the SNC before the United Nations holds its 45th general Assembly in September, Samdech Sihanouk used the so-called presence of Vietnamese troops and immigrants in Cambodia as a pretext to hinder the first meeting of the SNC.

Who has caused this doubt about the presence of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia?

Those who have followed the developments in Cambodia know well that the last batch of the Vietnamese volunteer army left Cambodia on 26 September 1989. Even the U.S. Department of Defense and various political personages have accepted this fact. However, in order to make it clear to those who have turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to this fact, we must stress that the Government of the State of Cambodia has proposed since the holding of the international conference on Cambodia in Paris that an ad hoc group within the framework of the conference be sent to investigate whatever is suspected. However, both the Khmer Rouge and Samdech Sihanouk have rejected this proposal, claiming that this inspection would not be within the framework of the comprehensive solution. Now the samdech is demanding the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops, which left Cambodia over 10 months ago, as a condition for the functioning of the SNC, which is part of the solution to the Cambodian problem.

Concerning this presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, pointed out clearly to a number of international journalists on 9 August that many countries have acknowledged the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, and because of this withdrawal there has been much talk about the return to power of the Pol Pot clique. The United States has changed its policy on Cambodia because it is afraid that Pol Pot may topple the Phnom Penh regime.

Recently, THE WASHINGTON POST carried a statement of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker which stressed that the Vietnamese troops have now withdrawn from Cambodia and that the United States may carry out activities to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power and to help promote a free election in Cambodia.

Concerning the problem of Vietnamese immigrants in Cambodia, no one has forgotten that since the meeting in France at the end of 1987, Comrade Hun Sen has made it clear that the number of Vietnamese people living in Cambodia as immigrants is not as high as the number of Vietnamese immigrants in Cambodia during Samdech Sihanouk's rule. These Vietnamese immigrants were born and have been living for generations in Cambodia. Is Samdech Sihanouk afraid of the Chinese immigrants in Cambodia annexing Cambodia or the Vietnamese immigrants annexing Hong Kong?

All of this should be enough to show that Sihanouk's statement is not a condition but only a pretext to avoid being condemned by the Cambodian people and by history. The Cambodian people know well that all of Samdech Sihanouk's words and deeds only serve the return to power of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Radio Welcomes 45th Anniversary of Revolution

BK1908110790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Station commentary: "The Spirit of Vietnam's August Revolution Should Be Promoted Enthusiastically"]

[Text] This year, together with the brotherly Vietnamese party, government, and people, the Cambodian party, government, and people all over the country, with their deepest and most sincere sentiments of solidarity and friendship, are extremely joyous in celebrating the 45th anniversary of the fraternal Vietnamese people's August Revolution.

Forty-five years ago the Vietnamese people—who had risen up against and crushed feudalism, French colonialism, and Japanese militarism under the brilliant leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], headed by the eminent President Ho Chi Minh—established on 2 September 1945 the first sovereign state in Southeast Asia. The victory of the August Revolution, which has great significance and a historic and contemporary character, shook the grass roots of the colonialist structure worldwide. Also, this victory was a source of encouragement to all oppressed laborers throughout the world, promoting the latter's confidence in their national liberation struggle.

The August Revolution victory was an achievement of the enduring and valiant traditional struggle conducted by the Vietnamese people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the immaculate Marxist-Leninist party headed by the great President Ho Chi Minh, to regain their right to decide on their own destiny and the future of their motherland. It also brought decisive and historic changes to Vietnam. The thousands of years of domination in chains and handcuffs—a dark screen over Vietnamese soil established by feudalism, French colonialism, and Japanese militarism—was broken up and pulled down, thereby catapulting Vietnam into a new era of independence, freedom, and socialism. Along with this, the triumphant August Revolution has reflected the tremendous influence of the Soviet Union's great revolution in September 1917 and the successes of the Marxist-Leninist ideological influence in Southeast Asia.

With the firm footing of the August revolutionary spirit, the Vietnamese people successively decimated and prevailed over the French colonialists at Dien Bien Phu in 1954 and the U.S. imperialist aggressors, completely unifying the country in 1975. The August Revolution has motivated the Vietnamese people to continuously develop their collective mastery and to use their all-out efforts to defend and rebuild the country, achieving multifariously remarkable successes. Vietnam's national economy is currently making significant headway. Its material and technical groundwork has improved; its constant progress in the fields of culture, education, and health is noted; and its tasks of defending the motherland and maintaining security in society is fully assumed. In addition, the people's material and moral life has been gradually stabilized and improved.

At present, the Vietnamese people are striving to implement the two strategic tasks put forth by the Sixth CPV Congress, which consists of combining the national and contemporary forces to intensify the struggle for peaceful coexistence and for safeguarding peace in Indochina, thus contributing to preserving peace in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region, and the world.

The August Revolution has not only motivated the Vietnamese people to achieve successes in the cause of defending and rebuilding the socialist Vietnamese motherland, but also has created favorable conditions for the struggles of the Cambodian and Lao peoples in liberating their nations and freeing their people from the yoke of the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists.

In pursuing the glorious and traditional time-honored relations of solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam, the Vietnamese volunteer troops assisted the Cambodian people in their national and class liberation struggle. In particular, at a time when the Cambodian people and motherland were plunged into the abyss of danger created by the genocidal Pol Pot regime, the brotherly Vietnamese forces and people volunteered to carry out once again the internationalist proletarian mission on Cambodian soil in response to the sacred wishes of the Cambodian people. They closely cooperated with the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] in crushing and overthrowing the Democratic Kampuchea regime, freeing the Cambodian people, and liberating the Cambodian motherland from the danger of genocide, bringing about complete victory on 7 January 1979.

Thanks to the development of the Cambodian motherland, in particular to the CPAF's ability to assume for themselves the task of national defense, the Vietnamese volunteer troops withdrew completely from Cambodia at the end of September 1989. This has proven more clearly that the entire Cambodian party, state, armed forces, and people are fully capable of assuming for themselves the responsibility of ensuring the country's survival in this new stage.

On the 45th anniversary of the glorious August Revolution, the Cambodian party, government, armed forces, and people throughout the country would like to express their deepest gratitude to the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, armed forces, and people for their unremitting and unflinching support and assistance to the cause of the Cambodian people's rebirth. We are resolved to study the heroic example and decisive spirit of struggle set by the heroic, brave, and courageous Vietnamese Army and people with a view toward carrying out ourselves the tasks of defending the country and rebuilding the Cambodian motherland toward prosperity.

The Cambodian people would like to sincerely wish the brotherly Vietnamese people new, still greater successes in establishing the material and technical groundwork for the Vietnamese motherland's advance and prosperity.

Radio Notes Success of Svay Rieng Regiment

BK1808075390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] During the 1990 rainy season military campaign, cadres and combatants from the Svay Rieng provincial regiment stationed in Banteay Meanchey Province, in concert with Division 179 and the Kompong Cham provincial regiment, launched a total of 376 search-and-destroy operations against the enemies inside and outside the defense perimeter.

As a result, the Svay Rieng provincial unit killed 457, wounded 248, and captured three enemy soldiers as well as forcing 23 others to surrender. We seized 25 assorted firearms and a field radio, and we destroyed two ICOM radio-communication sets and a significant quantity of war materiel.

Battle Successes in 4th Military Region Reported

BK1808095290 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] In the first two weeks of August, the armed forces from all units in the 4th Military Region jointly launched 67 mopping-up operations against the enemies, putting out of action 540, killing 336, and capturing 55 enemy soldiers, as well as uncovering seven enemy underground agents. We seized 71 assorted firearms and four ICOM radio-communication sets, and we destroyed 10 barrage guns.

The armed units that were outstanding in the two-week military campaign are Division 179 and the Kompong Cham, Svay Rieng, and Prey Veng provincial regiments currently stationed in western Cambodia.

SPK on Enemy Casualties in Kompong Thom in Jul

BK1708060990 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0430 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 17—In July, the government forces in Kompong Thom Province, 150 km north of Phnom Penh, put out of action 409 enemy troops, including 433 killed and 58 others captured.

They also seized 127 assorted guns and destroyed 1,000 antitank B-40 shells, two guns and one arms depot.

In the meantime, 126 enemy troops deserted their ranks and reported themselves to the authorities of the same province, bringing along 71 assorted firearms.

More Firearms Uncovered in Battambang Commune

BK2108052790 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0446 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 21—In the first half of this year, the local inhabitants of Phnom Sampeou commune, Banan District, Battambang Province, 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh, discovered a weapon cache with a total of 112 firearms hidden by bandits from the tripartite coalition.

According to Luon Soeun, head of the communal people's committee, the local inhabitants of Phnom Sampeou, during the period, in implementation of the party and state's clemency policy, persuaded six misguided persons to return to the community, bringing along four guns. "The population of Phnom Sampeou," said Luon Soeun, "have confidence in the current administration's leadership and are determined to carry on well the defence of their locality against the subversive activities of the Khmer reactionaries, and to win over more misled persons to the revolutionary side."

20,000 Refugees Said in Kompong Speu Since Jun

BK1808100890 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 18 August (SPK)—At present, authorities in Kompong Speu Province, west of Phnom Penh, are particularly engaged in building shelters for some 20,000 refugees, victims of the hostilities unleashed by the Cambodian rival factions in June.

Among them, 1,817 families live in O Koki camp and 960 families at Phnum Sruoch camp, both in Aoral District.

Men Sambo, secretary of the party committee in Aoral District, said that to date, district authorities have built 588 shelters at a total cost of 28.5 million riel and that 2,000 refugees are wounded and malaria-ravaged. As such, it is necessary to erect a health center there.

In spite of the assistance provided by the Cambodian Red Cross Committee and international humanitarian organizations, the refugees still face shortages of food and medicine. The O Koki camp has recently been given 218 tons of rice by international organizations and national donors.

Provincial authorities have allocated 1,500 ha of farmland to the war victims and have also assigned a group of tractors to help them till land. They have also provided the refugees with three tons of rice seeds.

Editorial on Enhancing Mass Organizations' Role

BK1808141990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 17 Aug 90

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Attention Should be Given To Enhancing the Role of Mass Organizations so That They Remain the Firm Footing of Our Party and State"—date not given]

[Text] Front committees, youth associations, women's associations, trade unions, and religious and minority ethnic groups are revolutionary organizations established under the leadership of the party, which represents the people and masses from all walks of life. These organizations have important roles in building and developing the revolutionary forces. They are a bridge joining the entire society to the party and state authorities, and they are the firm footing of the party and state.

Over the past 11 years, along with striving to develop and expand their organization structures down to grass-roots localities, our mass organizations have paid great attention to carry out their roles and tasks actively. With assistance from the party and state authorities, mass organizations everywhere, with their practical means and possibilities, have motivated themselves to marshall all types of forces so as to defend and rebuild our beloved motherland. The significance of the party slogan: Everything is for the frontline battlefield and everything is for developing the people's confidence in the new regime, is firmly grasped by mass organizations at all levels. The mass organizations have zealously implemented their activities at the grass-roots localities, associated themselves with the people, stimulated the mass movements, and assigned the masses to successfully carry out all tasks of redressing the military and security situation throughout the country. They have also overcome all manner of difficulties and obstacles in defending, with success, the revolutionary gains in all fields. In particular, since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia, we have been able to fully assume the tasks of defending the motherland and building our fledgling regime. The enemies' all manner of maneuvers and big- and small-scale cruel and savage activities have been crushed one after another by our armed forces and people, who remain able to preserve their upper hand and supremacy over all enemies, on all battlefields, in all situations, and under all circumstances.

However, we should be intensely aware that the enemies are, at all times, persisting in protracting the war with the intention of returning the genocidal Pol Pot regime to power in Cambodia. They continue to employ all kinds of stratagems to destroy us in all fields. In particular, they unremittingly attempt to break up the inner solidarity of our society and to mitigate the people's confidence in our new regime.

That being the case, at present the tasks of defending and rebuilding the motherland and all social gains, which become more zealous, require the entire party, armed forces, and people to firmly unite under the leadership of our party so as to make headway along the path that we have already defined. The mass organizations at all levels should strive to eliminate passiveness and other shortcomings and to vigorously carry out their roles and duties in motivating their activities more than ever before with a view toward achieving our ultimate objective. It is important for the mass organizations to expand their organizational structures and to seek effective methods to activate their tasks. We should do whatever we can to promote our mass organizations at all levels and sectors so that they can simultaneously prosper and remain the firm footing of our party and state.

Along with this, attention should be paid to promoting the work of providing ideological education to the masses and people. It is an essential and important duty of every mass organization to bolster the people's immaculate patriotism and mastery in jointly carrying out our commitments in this historic stage of vital importance.

The party committees and state authorities at all levels should, along with their active involvement in the mass motivation and political and ideological works, focus their attention on creating favorable conditions for our mass organizations and on attaining successful achievements.

Japanese Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 18 Aug

BK2008131990 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1125 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 20 August (SPK)—A delegation of the Japanese parliament headed by Mr. Michio Watanabe, representative and former minister of finances, foreign trade, and industry of Japan, arrived in Phnom Penh Saturday [18 August] for a four-day visit to Cambodia.

Mr. Watanabe, also former chairman of the committee for the study of policy problems of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, was greeted on his arrival by Mrs. Som Kimsuor, representative of the National Assembly, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, and editor of PRACHEACHON, and Chem Snguon, chairman of the National Assembly's Legislative Commission and Cambodia's deputy minister of justice.

Hun Sen Encourages Japanese Role in Settlement

OW2008201790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1520 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug. 20 KYODO—Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian Government told a visiting senior Japanese lawmaker Monday that Japanese participation in efforts to restore peace in the war-torn country is "indispensable," Japanese officials said.

Hun Sen also told former Finance Minister Michio Watanabe that the United Nations would play a "decisive" role in forming a Supreme National Council (SNC) that would oversee a cease-fire and general elections in Cambodia after four warring parties agree to the peace process, the officials said.

The two met for about three and one half hours. Watanabe urged the Hun Sen regime to take a flexible stance toward the SNC's composition and other related matters.

Hun Sen was quoted as replying that his government may accept U.N. supervision and guidance on domestic politics, military affairs, and diplomacy after three committees in charge of these areas are formed under the SNC.

Meanwhile, Hun Sen told a group of Japanese reporters that what is needed now is to hold the first session of the SNC, indicating he would not favor participation in an Indonesian-proposed peace conference in Jakarta under other circumstances.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas made the proposal to inaugurate the SNC in line with discussions at a meeting of foreign ministers from six member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held in Jakarta in July.

Hun Sen said it was already agreed to form the SNC at a meeting in Tokyo in June which he attended with leaders of two of the three opposition guerrilla groups.

The Khmer Rouge, which boycotted the Tokyo meeting, could disrupt the outcome of the Tokyo meeting because the agenda and framework of the proposed Jakarta conference are not clear, Hun Sen said.

He welcomed a recent U.S. policy change on the Cambodian issue, saying it would help prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power and would help realize peace through self-determination.

Hun Sen expressed hope that Phnom Penh will have a dialogue with the U.S. Government as soon as possible.

Radio Rejects Vietnam's Proposal on Elections

BK1808094590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Unattributed commentary: "The Aim of Vietnam's 12-Point Proposal on Holding Elections in Cambodia Is To Maintain the Puppet Regime so That Vietnam Can Carry on Its Aggression and Occupation of Cambodia"]

[Text] During recent talks on the Cambodian problem with the U.S. side in New York, the aggressor Hanoi authorities put forth a 12-point proposal on holding elections in Cambodia.

People have asked many questions, to which the Vietnamese answered as follows:
1. In this proposal of the Hanoi authorities, how about the Cambodian people's right to self-determination?

There is nothing at all regarding this. Vietnam will be in charge of everything—arranging, managing, and lording over the entire Cambodian nation and people.
2. What is the essence of this Vietnamese proposal?

The essence of this proposal is that an election must be held under the Vietnamese-lackey puppet regime.
3. If this election is held, will there be what the Vietnamese called the right and freedom to use radio and television services for the election campaigns?

No, there will be no such rights or freedoms. Vietnam will manage everything at will if the election is to be held under the puppet regime.
4. Who are the puppets?

The puppets are the Vietnamese lackeys. Therefore, Vietnam is the boss and the one to arrange and manage everything—who should or should not have the right to vote. Vietnam will allow Vietnamese nationals to vote, while barring the Cambodian people from voting and the Cambodian patriots from standing in the election. It will allow only the Cambodians who are its puppets to stand in the election.

This is what the aggressor Hanoi authorities call the Cambodian people's right to self-determination a la Vietnam. This 12-point proposal of the aggressor Hanoi authorities is aimed at preserving their puppet regime as a smokescreen to cover up Vietnam's continued occupation of Cambodia.

The essence of this proposal runs counter to the communique of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and to the United Nations. Vietnam has continued to oppose a genuine UN supervision, world opinion, international law, the UN Charter, and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. It has maintained the puppet regime so that it can continue to hide its aggressor forces for use in further occupying Cambodia. This is why Vietnam and its puppet lackeys continue to sabotage the comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. Through this, the true warlike nature of the Hanoi authorities and their puppet lackeys has been clearly laid bare. This has also exposed the true nature of the Vietnamese criminals' Indochinese federation strategy.

The Cambodian people, the international community, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and all other countries throughout the world totally reject this proposal of the aggressor Hanoi authorities. They continue to put pressure on Vietnam and its puppets in the course of the process to end the Vietnamese war of aggression through a comprehensive political settlement of both its internal and external aspects.

180 SRV Troops Said Sent to Battambang 6 Aug

BK1908045290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] On 6 August, the Hanoi enemy aggressors sent 180 Vietnamese soldiers from Vietnam along Route 2 to Phnom Penh. The troops were then brought toward the west along Route 5 via Kompong Chhnang and Pursat Towns to the Battambang provincial city.

Indonesia

Indonesians Allowed To Leave Kuwait, Iraq

BK2008155090 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Indonesian citizens are allowed to leave Kuwait and Iraq following the Indonesian Government's decision not to send troops to Saudi Arabia. The Iraqi news agency INA, quoting the Iraqi Government spokesman, said that the National Assembly speaker has given instructions to provide appropriate facilities to Indonesian citizens. He also expressed his appreciation for Indonesia's stand.

There are about 700 Indonesian citizens in Kuwait; the number of Indonesians in Iraq is not known yet. INA said that the National Assembly speaker also issued orders that assistance should be given to Indonesian citizens to expedite their departure from Kuwait.

Similar permission to leave Kuwait and Iraq was given to citizens of Australia, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, and Portugal.

Ministry on Workers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait

BK2108065590 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0631 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 21 (OANA-ANTARA)—Fifty-nine Indonesian domestic servants who worked in Saudi Arabia have returned home within the period of August 9 to 19 since their Saudi employers have fled for fear of a possible Iraqi attack against the oil-rich kingdom, a spokesman for the Manpower Ministry said here Monday [20 August].

Suhartaji further said their return was at the request of their own employers, whose homes were situated in Saudi cities close to the border with Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Their employers have promised to reemploy them if the situation has returned to normal. As a whole, 2,407 domestic servants have returned home from August 13 to 19, not only because of the evacuation of their employers, but also because their working contracts have expired and some were on leave.

Suhartaji said his ministry has opened a round-the-clock emergency post in the wake of the crisis to monitor the development of the situation and provide information to the public, especially on matters relating to the safety of Indonesian workers and domestic servants.

On the Indonesians employed in Kuwait, he said they total 700 and the government is now striving for their immediate departure from Kuwait.

Some of them have left the country and the government is still trying to have them leave Kuwait, he said without elaboration.

The lack of information hampers the monitoring of the emergency by the workers, he said.

Editorial Comments on Singapore-Kuwait Analogy

BK2108054590 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 9 Aug 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Singapore, another Kuwait?"]

[Text] Singapore's First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, who later this year will be his country's head of government succeeding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, a few days ago made a statement which could be quite misleading. Addressing a community gathering in Singapore as part of the country's National Day celebrations, Goh Chok Tong stated that "Singapore must never allow itself to become another Kuwait, a rich country but with no capacity to defend itself."

The Singaporean First Deputy Prime Minister stated the view, which definitely caused some eyebrows to be raised in Singapore's neighboring countries, in the context of the obligation for Singapore's youth to complete national military service for a two to 2.5 year period. Apparently voices have been raised proposing a shorter duration of compulsory military service, because it is considered a waste of time by many young Singaporeans, while jobs, especially in the private sector, are becoming more competitive.

As he developed his analogy between Singapore and Kuwait, Goh Chok Tong said: "There is a lesson in the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait for us." Like Singapore, according to the First Deputy Prime Minister, Kuwait—which was invaded by its neighbor Iraq last Thursday—is a small country, with a population of only 1.9 million. And although Singapore's level of wealth cannot be compared with that of Kuwait, as Goh pointed out, it is one of the richest countries in the Southeast Asian subregion.

Probably to justify the maintenance of the national military service that is obligatory to all Singapore youths, Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong noted that unlike Singapore, which has a reservist pool of armed personnel to draw upon should the need arise, Kuwait, with only a small armed force, did not have the capacity to defend its wealth.

All sorts of thoughts run through our minds on reading such a statement coming from a leader of a fellow ASEAN member state who will be his country's head of government in the near future. To be blunt about it, the first question that arises is; Where is it that he expects a Saddam Husayn to emerge from to threaten Singapore's independence and sovereignty? Does he expect such a power-hungry leader to emerge in Kuala Lumpur, or in Jakarta? Or does Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, who at one time was also Singapore's Minister of Defence, see Vietnam—after it has managed to revive its economy—as the Prussia of Southeast Asia?

Some countries around the world are known to have developed worst-case scenarios and alarming threat perceptions to keep their people on the alert, and to see to it that they do not become self-complacent to the point that they neglect the basic need of defending their country. However, in the case of Singapore—which is a co-founder of ASEAN, and yesterday celebrated its 23rd anniversary—we would have expected that by now no prominent leader would resort to such rudimentary psychological techniques to create*angst* among his people—in this case by raising the possibility that Singapore could suffer the same fate that has befallen Kuwait.

On the contrary, it is precisely because of Singapore's unique geopolitical position in Southeast Asia that the maximum resources should be allocated to the implementation of a best-case scenario. What we have in mind is Singapore's vital role as the subregion's center of communications and information, finance and banking activities, as a hubbing center for shipping and air transportation and for high-tech and biotechnology. With the posession of those assets, which give it the capability of setting in motion the social and economic progress of its neighboring countries, and which make it possible for it to play a positive role in enhancing Southeast Asia's development as a more cohesive subregion by the application of wise diplomacy, Singapore will come to be regarded as so important by its neighboring countries that they will feel they have a vital stake in Singapore's remaining unharmed.

Not surprisingly, it is Defense and Security Minister L.B. Murdani who has hammered home the basic point that

Indonesia regards it as vital that the independence of Singapore, with its dynamic economy, not be threatened. Speaking in November 1988 before a meeting of the Temasek Society—whose members are Singaporean military officers—he pointed out that in the very hypothetical case where Singapore's independence should be threatened, or where Changi International Airport should be taken over by a hostile power, Jakarta would not remain idle—not only because Singapore is a fellow member of ASEAN, but because of the importance of its facilities to Indonesia's economy. It is interesting to recall that among those present in the audience was Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

What makes Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's remarks—raising the possibility of Singapore's suffering the same fate as Kuwait—all the more intriguing is the fact that on that same occasion he also emphasized the point that Singapore was cooperating well with its neighbors, and that it was developing a triangle regional cooperation scheme involving Singapore, Malaysia's Johore region and Indonesia's Batam Island, with the possibility of including the other Riau islands. Obviously, such a strategy of joint economic development among the neighboring regions of the three states means that gradually a wide and deep sense of belonging will develop. The neighboring regions need Singapore's capital, technology, managerial skills and information resources, while Singapore, after it has reached a certain plateau as a result of its dramatic social and economic development in the past 25 years, requires certain basic necessities such as water, energy resources, and spacious recreational facilities for its citizens living in nearby areas.

We, of course, as has been pointed out a few times in these editorial columns, welcome his novel idea as it is clearly based on the fulfillment of mutual needs. However, to raise the specter of an aggressive neighboring country eager to take over Singapore because of its wealth, yet at the same time admitting the need for close economic cooperation with its immediate neighbors, seems a reflection of a puzzling split personality.

It appears that we, as Singapore's neighbor, must be patient and work harder to convince not only Singapore, but all the countries of Southeast Asia that we see it in our common interest to establish close ties of cooperation among all the countries in this subregion, in order to forge a cohesive Southeast Asia with autonomous features that will draw the respect of outside powers.

The fact that Singapore is celebrating its 25th anniversary and the Association of Southeast Asian nations its 23rd, shows that confidence-building among this subregion's neighboring countries, and the creation of a network of cooperative schemes is not an easy task.

Suharto Gives National Day Speech 16 Aug

BK1708113190 Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian 0335 GMT 16 Aug 90

[President Suharto's national day speech at the opening session of the House of Representatives in Jakarta—live]

[Excerpts] Peace be upon you! Honorable speaker, deputy speakers, all members of parliament, and beloved audience! Tomorrow is Friday, as we mark the 45th anniversary of our independence, which was proclaimed by Sukarno and Hatta on behalf of the Indonesian people on 17 August 1945. [passage omitted]

Fellow countrymen! When we celebrate Independence Day tomorrow, the day also signifies that the 1945 Generation has contributed 45 years of service to the nation and country. The 1945 Generation has a special place in the national struggle. The proclamation of independence occurs only once in history. History has given an opportunity to the 1945 Generation to give birth to, uphold, and safeguard national independence. The 1945 Generation has provided a correct answer to the challenge that it faced. The challenge was not a privilege for the 1945 Generation, but rather an honor and a responsibility. The 1945 Generation consists of ordinary human beings with all their strengths and weaknesses, superior qualities and shortcomings. [passage omitted]

When we look back at our past, we can see how we fought life-and-death battles against the colonialists who wanted to return to our country in the first 20 years of our independence. We were successful in coping with the threat of separatist movements as well as leftist and rightist extremists. All those experiences have positive meaning for the Indonesian people. We went through difficult tests on how to maintain our unity and integrity, on how to overcome trials and tribulations, and on how to maintain our dignity as a nation. Our unity and integrity would not be as strong if we had not undergone such difficult tests. We are confident that only the Pancasila ideology can assure the integrity, security, and happiness of our nation.

During the period mentioned earlier, our physical and mental well-being as a nation also suffered serious wounds. Our thinking pattern and state apparatus show deep scars inherited from the independence war era and from internal upheavals. Our pattern of political life, systems, and behavior also have been deeply affected. We had adopted the multiparty system and liberal democracy, but we were disappointed with the results of the 1955 general elections that were conducted in a liberal democratic atmosphere. Parliamentary sessions held after the 1955 general elections were deadlocked and ended in failure. Pancasila, the ideology of the country after independence, even became a point of controversy. There was no political stability, and governments collapsed quickly in succession. In that situation, the development program was never carried out as planned.

The disappointment over parliamentary democracy with its multiparty system gave birth to guided democracy, which produced equally disappointing results, because continued efforts to create a revolutionary atmosphere led to tension and confrontation among ourselves. This culminated in the national tragedy manifested in the rebellion staged by PKI [Indonesian Communist Party] for the second time in 1965.

All those experiences made us search our souls. We realized that the main cause of such events was our deviation from the purity of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. We realized that we had to return to and practice Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution in a pure and responsible way. We immediately restructured our state and public life. The way we had been conducting our political and economic life in the past was in fact unable to ensure national stability and economic growth. We had to abandon both liberal and guided democracies.

As such, we began a new stage in the development and growth of our nation. We restructured our entire public life in line with the spirit of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. We restructured the ideological, political, economic, and social lives. Not only did we restructure political, economic, and social institutions, we also promoted new values, thoughts, and behavior that were necessary for building this nation. This is what we call renewal or modernization.

We absorbed knowledge and technology from advanced countries and we learned from their experiences in national development, but we built our society according to our own model. We could not simply ape the development models of other countries that might have been suitable for them. Our development program is one way to put Pancasila into practice. [passage omitted]

As for ideology, we reached a national consensus in 1978 on guidelines in understanding and practising Pancasila. It took us no less than 33 years to reach a national consensus on how to practise our state philosophy. After that, we were able to reach another national consensus that was equally important, namely, our declaration that Pancasila is the sole principle in our state and public life. We also expressed our determination to carry out development as a way to practice Pancasila. We also restructured our political life so that there are now three socio-political forces. [passage omitted]

Some time ago, I stressed that we should no longer worry about the existence of diverse views and opinions in society. Democracy indeed needs much consultation, discussion, exchanges of views, and dialogues between the government and the people, or among different groups. We must, in fact, view differences of opinion as an agent to activate dynamism. There were moments when we had to worry about the existence of diverse views and opinions, particularly when our society still had different ideologies. However, that is over now, and Pancasila is solidly entrenched in our society. If we are still worried about the diversity of opinions, that means we have doubts about the strength of Pancasila. Such worries could also hamper the growth of Pancasila itself. Under Pancasila, each person, group, or circle must feel secure. [passage omitted]

Honorable speaker, deputy speakers, and all members of parliament: While we make preparations to strengthen the basic framework of our national development, we notice that the world is undergoing fundamental and rapid changes. The superpower countries continue to make their moves toward detente. That gives hope for the creation of a more peaceful world. The process of putting less emphasis on ideology in international relations has begun. All countries have begun to concentrate on socioeconomic development, and they have started to reduce their defense budgets. The reduction of such massive defense budgets will provide a chance for them to concentrate on economic development for the welfare of human beings in general. This situation is in line with our interest in national development.

At the same time, instead of being reduced, there are signs that trade protectionism is growing. There are no indications yet that a just solution to the North-South problem will be found. The developing countries' debts remain a serious problem. All this shows that many problems have still to be solved by all countries.

Amid the hope for world peace, a new turmoil has emerged in the Middle East. Despite efforts to seek a peaceful solution to the problem, things seem to grow worse every day. It is difficult to predict how events will develop in the region, which is one of the world's largest oil producers. We can only hope that the turmoil will end soon.

We will continue to do our best to give our contributions to ensure that the global situation will move toward peace and development. Our contributions suit our interest in national development and are in line with the preamble of our Constitution.

In our own region, we notice that ASEAN has made specific progress. Together with other ASEAN countries, we continue to work together for the realization of a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia. At the same time, we continue to actively seek a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem, despite the fact that such a solution primarily depends on the political will and readiness of factional leaders in that country. The Southeast Asia region itself has also undergone another important change, namely ASEAN's improved relations with Vietnam and Laos, which reflects an increasingly positive development in the region.

The normalization of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the PRC on 8 August is our contribution to the stability and peace in Asia in particular and to the world in general. The normalization of diplomatic relations took place during the historic visit to Indonesia by PRC Prime Minister Li Peng. We are well prepared for the resumption of diplomatic relations. Many important changes took place in the two countries as well as in the world after relations had been frozen for almost 25 years. It is unrealistic to look at present and future relations between the two countries from events that took place almost 25 years ago. It is equally unrealistic for one Asian country with the world's largest population and another Asian country with the world's fifth largest population not to have diplomatic relations, which serve as the hallmark of international relations.

The two countries have agreed to learn the valuable lesson of renouncing past history. The Republic of Indonesia and the PRC have agreed to start a new chapter of history based on the principles of the Bandung [Asian-African] Conference and on the principles of peaceful coexistence. As such, Indonesia's requirement for such normalization, namely the noninterference in each other's internal affairs at the state, people, or party level, has been fulfilled. I presented such requirements at the honorable session last year.

The normalization of diplomatic relations will make it easier for us to translate into action the contents of the preamble of our Constitution, namely to contribute toward world peace on the basis of independence, eternal peace, and social justice.

In line with our GBHN [broad outline of state policy], we continue to devote our foreign policy to our national interests, especially our interest in development. That explains why we took part in the summit meeting of the Group of 15 countries, which was held in Kuala Lumpur last June. This summit reflects the determination of developing countries to forge cooperation among them through specific actions. The Group of 15 is not an exclusive group which aims to pursue a policy of confrontation with industrialized countries. Instead, the Group of 15 intends to hold constructive dialogues between industrialized and developing countries. [passage omitted]

My beloved brothers! Let us recount our achievements in economic development since the launching of the Fifth Development Program. We were faced with unresolved global economic problems at the end of the Fourth National Development Program. Oil prices and foreign exchange were unstable. Developing nations were plagued by huge debts and protectionism. Wary of those problems, we took cautious steps in trying to achieve the desired goals in the Fifth Development Program. We predicted that there would be an average of five percent annual economic growth during the Fifth Development Program. Encouraging results were achieved in the first year of this five-year program. The country recorded 7.4 percent economic growth in 1989. This is the highest growth recorded over an eight-year period. The non-gas sector, which forms the people's major livelihood, recorded a rapid growth of 8.2 percent. Our country's economic performance over the recent years has been encouraging and is certainly advancing rapidly.

The country's rapid economic growth has been due to increasing non-gas exports. Foreign and local investment in Indonesia have also increased. This clearly shows that the deregulatory and debureaucratizing measures and other decisions that we have taken have proven to be productive. Due to our constant support, non-gas exports have been very encouraging. This sector's exports contributed 27 percent to the country's total export volume at the end of the Third Development Program. Currently, it contributes 60 percent to the country's total export volume. The income derived from non-gas exports during the 1989-90 period totalled nearly $14.5 billion, or an increase of 19 percent compared to the previous year. There was also a salient increase in industrial production by major, medium, and small industries. New commodities have been added to our export list.

We should continue our efforts to increase our future exports and also our overall economic activity. Therefore, it is important that we develop new production capacities. That means that we need more investment. The continuously improving global situation has provided a good climate for investment in the country.

During the 1989-90 period, the government approved 975 new development projects with a total investment of 21.2 trillion rupiah. This is an increase of 15.7 percent in investment compared to the previous year. There was also a distinct increase in foreign investment. A total of $44.4 billion was invested in 338 projects. This indicated that foreign investment projects had doubled compared to the previous year. We should constantly continue to attract more investments, because with strong investments we can further increase our future economic activities. In the 1989-90 period, economic activities were equally distributed, and an increase in production was noted in the agriculture, mining, industry, trade, communications, construction, electricity, and other sectors. Supported by good food production, the agricultural sector grew by more than four percent. This shows that our agricultural sector is consistent. The industrial sector should take advantage of the existing huge export market opportunities and prove its credibility as the country's prime economic mover. Other sectors should also contribute toward the rapid economic development.

Meanwhile, numerous development projects have been completed, because the country has achieved its targetted income. We will continue to increase the country's income through the non-gas sector, which currently contributes 60 percent of the total income. The non-gas sector reaped 17.5 trillion rupiah during the 1989-90 period, about a 35-percent increase compared to the previous year. Thus, we have fully utilized the foreign aid given to us in trying to meet our objectives.

We have emphasized the establishment of a basic infrastructure, the development of human resources, and the development of basic public services for people, such as health, education, water supplies, and other services under the Fifth National Development Program. We have set aside allocations to operate and maintain the infrastructure we have set up. We will continue our efforts to eradicate poverty.

We should maintain our economic stability in spite of the fast pace of development. The prices of basic commodities have been controlled. The high inflation rate of 6.6 percent from 1988-89 has been cut to 5.5 percent for 1989-90. We are more determined to make further efforts to control the inflation rate.

We need to maintain and secure the momentum of our good economic performance in the future years. In this connection, we will have more responsibilities. We need to develop more pioneer infrastructure and facilities so that development in other sectors will not be hindered. We must continue to produce more skilled and productive labor.

In facing competition, the existing socioeconomic agencies should be widened in an effort to support current rapid economic activities. We should reform these agencies. We should also ensure that rapid socioeconomic development will not destroy our natural resources and environment. What is more important is that we should continue to implement our wise decisions in guaranteeing healthy development that will finally distribute wealth equally to our people. We should realize that the achievements we are currently savoring are the fruits of our past labor. Continuous development will definitely improve the quality of our earlier achievements. [passage omitted]

Honorable audience! The 1980s have proved to be a decade of challenges. We were hard-hit by the serious world recession, low oil prices, and other incidents. To secure continued development, we should make basic reforms.

We should continue to increase our national income by making every effort to intensify non-gas exports. Meanwhile, it is hoped that the industrial sector will play a more active role in development and expansion through the country's financial institutions.

We have taken that initiative after 1983 in an effort to achieve those objectives. Sometimes the responsibility we have undertaken seems to be a heavy burden, but the results are the current achievements which we are enjoying. The foreign exchange received from non-gas exports is rapidly rising. The national income has also improved. We have succeeded in eliminating our total income dependency on oil exports. Our economy is now becoming more balanced and stable.

Our present economic system is the result of national reform. It has been set up as a result of past challenges. Our economy has proven its strength in supporting national development. It has also shown its ability to counter stiff challenges and has safely raised us out of the doldrums. We are confident that with continuous hard work, our economy will be able to face new challenges in the future.

My beloved brothers! We should be aware that there are problems that must be solved. We are also aware that with all the progress we make, there will be problems. Rapid development will definitely create new aspirations. I clarified in my nationwide address in parliament last year that we were able to reduce the poverty level. About 24 million people were freed from the shackles of poverty. Even though the number of poor has been reduced, there are still about 30 million living in poverty. We need to make more efforts. We do not wish to see the gap between the rich and poor widen. Since the launching of the First National Development Program, we have taken numerous steps to close the gap. We have provided basic amenities in various rural regions and have carried out programs such as the transmigration and so on. We cannot totally wipe out poverty through subsidies or donations to the poor. This is an unhealthy practice.

Equal distribution of wealth will only be realized through the people's full participation in economic development. Such opportunities exist through creativity and work productivity. We are continuously making more efforts to close the gap. [Passage omitted]

In meeting the challenges of ever rapid development, deregulation and debureaucratization are our major efforts at reform. Both measures will help place the nation on the threshold of development. The nation will continue to play an important role in guiding the society to become more creative in an effort to achieve the objective of national development. [passage omitted]

My beloved countrymen! Together we have faced experiences during the 45 years of independence. We have learned much from experience. We foresee opportunities in the future. We must continue our journey, even though we face challenges. We take into account those who have sacrificed to achieve independence. We are more confident as a result of our current achievements. May Almighty God bless us with greater strength in our continuing journey toward greater peace, prosperity, and justice based on Pancasila. Thank you, may God bless you all!

Laos

PRC Government Delegation Arrives for Visit

BK2008122990 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Vientiane, August 20 (KPL)—A governmental delegation of the People's Republic on China, led by its first deputy-foreign minister Yuan Qihuai, arrived here on August 19 for a week of goodwill visit to the Lao PDR [People's Democractic Republic]. This was in response to the invitation of the Lao Government.

The delegation is visiting some public figures of Laos and meeting with its Lao counterpart to discuss the improvement of bilateral ties and international issues of mutual concern. In addition, it will visit some cultural sites in both Vientiane and Luang Prabang. Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet and ambassador of the PRC to Laos Liang Feng welcomed the delegation at its arrival at Wattai Airport.

Paper Views Military Talks With Thailand

BK2108061790 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Undated PASASON article: "The Outcome of Talks Is Satisfactory but Efforts Must Be Continued To Resolve Remaining Problems"]

[Text] During an official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 15-18 August by General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army, at the invitation of General Sunthon Khongsomphong, military supreme commander, and General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander in chief of the Kingdom of Thailand, a joint statement was signed at the outcome of the talks held in Bangkok between delegations from the armed forces of both countries.

The joint statement points out that the two sides expressed mutual agreement on the gradual progress and improvement of relations between the two countries and on various other issues. The joint statement stresses that the two delegations will recommend to their respective governments that they increasingly promote relations and cooperation in the economic, trade, investment, communications, public health, educational, cultural, and tourism fields. In particular, the two delegations unanimously agreed that consultations must be held to discuss problems between the two countries to accelerate settlement of the remaining border problems, such as at the border area between Laos' Boten District in Sayaboury Province and Thailand's Chat Trakan District. At the same time, the two sides agreed to cooperate in preventing and suppressing crime along the common border of the two countries, including terrorist movements, bandits, and exiled Lao rebels. With regard to the problem of Lao refugees currently residing in Thailand, the two sides will propose to their respective governments that they contact the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to find ways to resolve the issue within a definite timeframe.

These topics are only part of the prominent contents of the joint statement issued at the outcome of the talks between the high-level military delegations of Laos and Thailand. The outcome was sufficiently satisfactory in light of the mutual interests of the two countries and for the Lao people. This outcome is considered the fruit of the continuation of consultations held between the military delegations of the two countries during the recent official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong. During that visit, the Lao side reaffirmed its stance on exiled Lao reactionaries to the Thai side, requesting that the Thai side focus on adopting measures to disarm exiled Lao reactionaries residing in Thailand, confining them in refugee camps, and properly managing those camps.

On settling the problem in the border area linking Boten District of Sayaboury Province with Thailand's Chat Trakan District, the Lao side requested its Thai counterpart to encourage joint border cooperation committees to carry out their normal functions with a view to expeditiously resolving the remaining problems. It also noted that the Lao and Thai armed forces should jointly continue to fruitfully resolve the remaining problems through peaceful means in accordance with the agreement previously reached. The Lao and Thai armed forces should recommend to their respective governments the continuation of resolving the various remaining problems, such as carrying out joint drives against armed Lao exiles and implementing various measures to disarm the Lao exiles; jointly conducting suppression against terrorists along the common border of the two countries; and attempting to peacefully settle the remaining border problems in accordance with the international norms and principles based on the time-honored spirit of neighborly friendship. Only by doing this will Lao-Thai relations become as clear as the stream of affection between the Lao and Thai peoples, as mentioned by Her Royal Highness Maha Chakkri Sirinthon during her recent visit to the LPDR, and will the cooperation between the two countries develop fruitfully in accordance with the spirit of the Lao-Thai joint communiques signed earlier by the governments of the two countries.

Phoun Sipaseut Attends Indonesian Commemoration

BK1808134090 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Syadman, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Republic of Indonesia to Laos, and his wife hosted a reception at his residence yesterday evening to mark the 45th anniversary of Indonesia's independence.

Present at the reception as guests of honor were Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, ministers, deputy ministers, and a number of high-level cadres as well as foreign diplomats and representatives of international organizations to Laos.

Rebel Leader Speaks Against SRV 'Occupation'

BK1808123790 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0100 GMT 15 Aug 90

[Recorded statement by "General Thonglit Chotbengboun, deputy commander of the armed forces struggling for democracy, or the Lao national liberation armed forces"—place and date not given]

[Text] Respected Lao multiethnic compatriots, generals, colonels, national liberation combatants in the ranks and files of the Lao national liberation armed forces: We all know that the red Vietnamese [words indistinct] have been blatantly waging a war of aggression against the Kingdom of Laos for more than 30 years with Souphanouvong, Faidang, and Sithon Kommadam serving as their running dogs. In so doing, they have repeatedly employed different strategic schemes, sent troops to massacre the Lao people, and held negotiations to confuse the Lao politicians. As a result, the Lao people and politicians within and outside the country were lured into their pit of death. Our Lao people were unconsciously divided into leftist, neutral, and rightist groups. Eventually, the leftists and neutralists were deceived into serving the communist Vietnamese against the country, and led the Kingdom of Laos to disaster—the red Vietnamese occupation since mid-1975. It was the deceptive propaganda of the red Vietnamese and their clamoring about how beautiful their political doctrine [words indistinct] which enabled the red Vietnamese to trick the Lao leaders and people, occupy our country, and appoint Vietnamese-born Kaysone Phomvihan as prime minister of the communist regime which has ruled the country with a barbarous and dictatorial power supported by as many as 60,000 Vietnamese soldiers for the past 15 years. The Lao people have been living bitterly in their own country, which has been turned into a colony of the red Vietnamese. Hundreds of thousands of Lao people, including the Lao king, ministers, government officials, generals, colonels, traders, and businessmen, were brutally massacred. Many were killed by the yellow rain and chemical weapons. Half a million people were fortunate enough to escape death by fleeing, thus becoming stateless persons living in refugee camps in second and third countries. The remaining three million people have remained in the hell of the bayonet-rule of the red Vietnamese until today. Such horrifying events have never happened before in the history of the Lao nation and people.

Beloved Lao multiethnic compatriots, the aforementioned events are leading us to a calamity triggered by the traitorous clique of Souphanouvong, Faidang, and Sithon, who are selling out the Lao nation and land to the Vietnamese. They are allowing them to swallow up all of Laos under the scheme of turning Laos into a country of the Indochinese federation. In order to organize their occupation of Laos, the red Vietnamese appointed Kaysone Phomvihan as prime minister to monopolize the administration of the country with the bayonet-rule of the red Vietnamese and to (?persecute) the Lao people with communism for the past 15 years without free and democratic elections. Despite the fact that the Lao people are entitled to human rights and the sovereign power over their own land, the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese [words indistinct] bitterly. The Lao people have had to bow down and serve the party and administration of Kaysone and the red Vietnamese for 15 years. Our Lao people [words indistinct] their traitorous schemes to destroy the Lao nation and the independence and sovereignty of the Lao people with as many as 10 divisions of the red Vietnamese Army which are still occupying Laos today. Moreover, the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese are fooling people throughout the world with the following propaganda:

1. They will bring peace to the Lao people. On the contrary, the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese have intensified the fighting in the country to the extent that their Air Force is used against the people who call for freedom and democracy.

2. They will bring well-being to the Lao people. On the contrary, the Lao people are living under the rule of a tyrant. The Lao people are forced to blindly serve the party and government of Kaysone and the red Vietnamese like deaf and dumb slaves.

3. They will bring justice to the Lao people. On the contrary, the Lao people have been living under the rule of their bayonets and have been tortured in their jails and seminar camps.

4. They will bring prosperity to the Lao people. On the contrary, [words indistinct]. Comrade Kaysone is forced to seek assistance from the free-world countries. Worse still, [words indistinct] the Lao Embassies in France and Japan. Kaysone and the red Vietnamese are selling natural resources and the Lao country to [words indistinct] and Lao Embassies in foreign countries.

Our Lao compatriots must realize this. We must wake up and stop them from destroying our country. Kaysone has promised that he will give full independence to the Lao people, but it turned out that we have unconsciously been colonized by the red Vietnamese.

Respected and beloved compatriots, the aforementioned facts clearly indicate that the future of our Lao nation is heading toward the abyss of hell and that our multiethnic Lao people will face calamity and eventual extinction.

As our Lao nation is going through these horrifying ordeals, our national liberation army and the Lao people in the entire country can no longer tolerate the vicious deeds of the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese. Therefore, we will rise up to fight the red Vietnamese and force them to give up their occupation of Laos unconditionally and to let the Lao people truly own their country. Wake up beloved Lao compatriots. It is not yet too late for our Lao nation. Regardless of the aforementioned catastrophes, we, the Lao people, have feelings, dignity [words indistinct]. The red Vietnamese belittle our dignity and tramp on our independence and sovereignty, and blatantly plunder our mineral resources. The evil Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese massacred and tortured hundreds of thousands of our children, leaders, government officials, soldiers, policemen, businessmen, and traders; and his majesty the king and many members of the royal family were killed in the most inhumane and barbarous manner.

Respected compatriots, communist regimes are now being cursed and punished for the vicious and untold sins they have committed. The communist countries in East Europe are undergoing large-scale revolutions and are embracing a liberal democratic administration. More than 300 million people in seven countries have been set free miraculously from the communist hell. This is a phenomenon which has tremendously strong economic and political repercussions for the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese. Therefore, they are hurriedly promulgating laws to deceive the Lao people for the second time. I hereby appeal to all compatriots not to let yourselves be seduced by the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese again. Do not let the bitter history repeat itself; otherwise, more Lao people will be killed.

Beloved and respected Lao compatriots, the cries of pain and bitterness and the heartbreaking wailing of our Lao nation have been heard for more than 15 years. I therefore appeal to our sane multiethnic Lao people to expeditiously rally together to uphold national unity and to join with the national liberation armed forces to fight and drive out the red Vietnamese aggressors and force them to end their occupation of Laos unconditionally. We must join with each other to make this historic task of national liberation successful so as to allow the multiethnic Lao people, not the red Vietnamese, to truly own this land. I pray to all sacred beings, the guardian spirit of the Kingdom of Laos, and the spirit of His Majesty the King Sisavang Vatthana, as well as to the spirits of the ministers, generals, colonels, government officials, soldiers, policemen, traders, businessmen, and people who were brutally killed by the Kaysone traitorous clique and Vietnamese, to help the Lao people throughout the country and the national liberation armed forces win victory in the historic task of national liberation. Then the Lao people will truly own this land with independence and sovereignty. The land of a million elephants [words indistinct] will be saved as the heritage for younger generations of the multiethnic Lao people forever.

Down with the Kaysone clique and red Vietnamese aggressors. They must end their occupation of Laos unconditionally.

May the Lao people in the entire country be victorious in this historic task of national liberation in the near future. Thank you.

General Thonglit, deputy commander of the Lao national liberation armed forces.

Philippines

Further Reaction to Middle East Crisis Reported

Ramos Reemphasizes Evacuation

HK1808092190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos today denied allegations that the government was doing nothing to evacuate Filipino workers stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. Speaking at a news conference, Ramos stressed that the government's priority was to evacuate Filipino workers in these countries. He added that the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Department of National Defense were in constant touch with other government agencies such as the Department of Labor, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Transportation and Communications on the conditions of Filipinos in the Middle East in accordance with the responsibilities of Cluster E in the cabinet.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] In fact, from the very first day of the Middle East crisis, I have stated that the Philippine Government is monitoring the situation very closely and the first priority is the evacuation of some 3,000 displaced persons, displaced in the sense that they became separated from their employers and therefore, no more employment. Secondly, they really left Kuwait. Now, we can see a continuous pickup of these displaced Philippine nationals through the Philippine Airlines at the major pickup point of Amman, Jordan and some other places. So, I think there has been a mistake in quoting me as it is clear that our Defense Department and the Armed Forces of the Philippines...[end recording]

Iran To Increase Oil Exports

HK2008051090 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 20 Aug 90 p 1

[By Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Philippines can be thankful it did not follow a stridently anti-Iran U.S. lead. The cordial relations maintained are now paying dividends.

With the Philippines scrambling to cover oil requirement shortfalls brought about by the ongoing Middle East crisis, Iran has agreed to raise its oil exports to the country to 40 thousand barrels a day from an average of only 7,300 barrels a day previously, a senior Foreign Affairs official said over the weekend.

Iranian oil exports for the period January to may 1990 amounted to only 1.1 million barrels. After the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] sources said Iran "last August 8, made an initial commitment to raise oil exports to the Philippines to 20 thousand barrels a day. That figure has now been doubled.

"The PNOC (Philippine National Oil Company) and the Iranian National Oil Company are presently working out the mechanics," the DFA official said, indicating that concessionary terms, in view of the country's tight foreign exchange situation, are being negotiated.

Ramos: U.S. Not Using Bases

HK2008052290 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0325 GMT 20 Aug 90

[By Jojo Ismael]

[Text] The United States Government will not use its military bases in the Philippines as an assembly point for U.S. troops sent to the Middle East. In his appearance today before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, which is currently conducting an investigation and studies on the possible effects of the Middle East conflict, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said it is clear at the moment the United States has no plans to use the Subic and Clark Air Bases as assembly points for its soldiers who are scheduled for deployment to various places in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia. He explained that the U.S. soldiers' entry point to the Gulf is through the eastern coast and not from the Western Pacific, which means that they will not use their facilities at the Philippine bases. Here is Secretary Ramos' statement:

[Begin recording in English] As far as staging, meaning assembling them here and then moving them out to the war zone, I believe that would be the more improbable situation because the troops would already be processed. The troops, not coming from the Philippines or our immediate vicinity, would already be corded their troop transports or air transports and would be passing through here maybe just for refueling and the usual rest, which is necessary when troops undergo long voyages; but not to prepare themselves for war within the territorial limits of the Philippines. [end recording]

Diplomatic Protest to Ambassador

HK2008094990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Aug 90

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Manuel Yan today said that the Department of Foreign Affairs has sent a diplomatic protest against Iraq, addressed to Iraqi Ambassador to the Philippines 'Ali Sumaydah in his Makati office. But Yan said the protest was in general terms to remind Iraq of its previous assurance to safeguard the welfare of the Filipinos in Kuwait and Iraq. Yan added that a diplomatic protest is just a minor thing, because the government is still investigating and gathering sufficient evidence on the reported abuse and rape by Iraqi soldiers of Filipinas who tried to cross the Kuwait-Saudi Arabia border. Yan stated that the government will lodge a stronger protest if the Philippines can prove that there were Filipinas who had been raped and abused by Iraqi soldiers.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus reported that based on information relayed to him by U.S. Charge d'Affaires Thomas Hubert, food for stranded Filipinos in Kuwait is sufficient and satisfactory. Manglapus also said that 13,000 Filipino workers have had their travel documents processed at the Philippine Embassy there and are just waiting for transportation back to the Philippines.

Aquino Frees Funds for Rescue

HK2008100190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Aug 90

[By Dick Sinchongco from Malacanang Palace—live or recorded]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino ordered the release of additional funds for the evacuation of Filipino workers stranded in the Middle East. The president issued the directive after Labor Secretary Ruben Torres informed her of the need for an additional 1 billion pesos to finance the evacuation of Filipino overseas workers.

Here is Secretary Torres with Malacanang reporters:

[Begin recording in English] [Torres] The president has received already [changes thought]...directed the national government to look for this fund.

[Reporter] How much do we need?

[Torres] It would depend on how many workers would decide to leave Kuwait or were supposed to leave Kuwait. But our estimate is that if we are to repatriate the 50,000 or so workers there, then we will need around 1 billion to do that. But of course, as I reported to the president earlier, most likely only around 25,000 or 30,000 might really want to get out. Hopefully, we can even reduce these by getting these workers who got out to Saudi Arabia employed in Saudi Arabia. [end recording]

Torres also said the government of Saudi Arabia has given assurance of providing employment to Filipinos arriving from Iraq and Kuwait.

[Begin recording in English] [Torres] And we have discussed this with the government officials of Saudi Arabia, who are willing to accommodate the workers who are now in Saudi Arabia if these workers would want to work in Saudi Arabia.

[Reporter] But they can only accommodate 4,000 men.

[Torres] Yes, they say as many as we could get and they would be able to accommodate. There is a shortage of labor in Saudi Arabia even before the war, and especially now with certain nationalities are not really entering Saudi Arabia because in one way or another they sided with Iraq. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Torres also revealed that many Filipinos are suffering from chicken pox because of the crowded situation in the Philippine Embassy in Kuwait. He added that food supplies have been delivered to that country.

Ramos Seeks To Prevent Unrest

HK2008101390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos asked the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to grant the Defense Department a legal weapon to enable it to prevent civil disturbances, which may occur as a result of an imminent oil price increase.

According to Ramos, during the first two oil shocks, the destabilization efforts did not come from the groups fighting the Marcos government and martial law, but from citizens who organized a united front to oppose the oil price increase, most of whom were drivers and consumers.

Meanwhile, in a hearing by the Senate Committee on National Defense, Armed Forces Vice Chief of Staff General Rodolfo Biazon strongly condemned the rebel soldiers for the series of bombings in Metro Manila. Like General De Villa and Secretary Ramos, Biazon also assured the Senate that Colonel Honasan's group no longer has the capability to launch another coup d'etat. In the hearing, Biazon confirmed that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement was responsible for the spate of bombings in Metro Manila.

[Begin Biazon recording in English—in progress]...certain facts that we can call, that we can use to determine an excellent assessment. No. one, it is a fact that they had, at one time or another, announced that bombings would be part of their next move, meaning terrorism, and as a matter of fact publicized in some papers, where they said that, in depth, they will go to bombings. [end recording]

Iraqi Soldiers Enter Embassy

HK2108052190 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Iraqi soldiers entered the Philippine Embassy compound in Kuwait and demanded that Filipina women who are temporarily housed in the embassy be turned over to them. This was reported by Filipinos who just arrived from Jordan.

According to Jim Layosa, a driver and one of the 22 Filipinos with whom this reporter spoke at the Philippine Embassy in Amman, they did not turn over the Filipina women to the Iraqi soldiers. Layosa also said the Iraqi soldiers did not open fire, as they were apparently intimidated by the large number of Filipinos in the embassy.

'Strongly Worded' Protest

HK2108095090 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Report by Rey Arquiza from the Department of Foreign Affairs—live or recorded]

[Text] Aside from cases of abuse and maltreatment committed against Filipino contract workers by Iraqi soldiers, hold-up cases have also been reported. This was learned today at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

According to Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, the Philippine Embassy in Riyadh has been receiving signed statements from Filipino evacuees from Kuwait certifying that they have been victims of rape, maltreatment, and hold-ups at the hands of the Iraqi soldiers.

Manglapus said that the signed statements will be used by the Philippines as the basis for a strongly worded diplomatic protest against the Iraqi Government. He further added that the abuse, maltreatment, and hold-ups committed against the Filipinos by the Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait were violations of international law and of UN Resolution No. 664, which provides for the safety of third country nationals in Kuwait.

Earlier, Manglapus said that he had instructed Philippine Embassies in the Middle East to ask Filipino evacuees who were victims of the Iraqi soldiers to write signed statements so that these may be used as a basis for a diplomatic protest to be lodged against Iraq.

Manila Cannot Deny U.S. Refuelling Rights

HK2008103190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna said the Philippine Government has no power to stop American warships from refuelling in its facilities in the country. Azcuna clarified that refuelling is one of the purposes of Clark and Subic Naval Base:

[Begin recording] [Azcuna] *Only military combat operations requires a consultation. Normal usage of the bases like refuelling, I think these are parts within the guidelines of the normal uses.* A consultation is only required for combat operations.

[Reporter] [passage indistinct]

[Azcuna] *For normal levels, I don't think so. It is part of a normal operation.* [words indistinct] [end recording]

Ramos Dismisses Coup Threat During Interview

HK2008152390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 19 Aug 90 p 16

[Interview with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos By Paulynn Sicam on 13 August during flight from Davao to Manila]

[Text] **Sir, for the past weeks the talk of an impending coup has been increasing in intensity. How restive is the military really?**

You know, just because there are coup rumors—in fact I was assassinated three times last week including Gen. [General] de Villa according to this rumors—does not necessarily mean that there is restiveness in the military. These could be the various groups composed mainly of combinations of military and civilians that are fomenting this noise, and there have also come out a few so-called factions in the Armed Forces with their new acronyms. But these are not truly indicative of the real situation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] because I would like to assure you that the defense and the military establishment are fully capable of handling any serious attempt to destabilize and even to attempt a coup itself—which is a little bigger than these propaganda ploys that are being floated these days. Capability is what must be emphasized because on the part of the

AFP that underlines the effectiveness of the great, great majority of its men and the units. And I think if there is an increase in the noise and in the smoke and in the propaganda, that is because the threat groups have really lost very much of their capability to do something like what was attempted in Aug. 1987 and in Dec. 1989.

But they seem to have great capability to make people feel unstable and insecure.

Precisely, because if it is the so-called ultra-Rightists, the military adventurers, who float these things, it is only the very sensitive financial and business community that is affected. If it is the CPP/NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army] that assassinates a senior officer whether in Manila or in elsewhere, the impact is not very greatly registered in the business community such as in the stock market. So, I think we should try to distinguish these things.

Now, another point, and I must be very frank about this, there is a propensity among a cetain part of the media to give importance to even an unsigned, anonymous, xeroxed copy of a letter that is almost unreadable. Now, it so easy to do that and I think that a large part of uncertainty in some sectors come from this.

Since 1986 you and the other leaders of the military have been trying to make the organization reach a certain ideal state. What stage are you at?

Well, I would say that we are better off now than what in the early days of this administration because we were working with an Armed Forces that was still the same Armed Forces inherited from the previous administration. But within a very short time through some rather drastic policies like the retirement of all overstaying and extended senior officers, except for one—the chief of staff of the AFP. [sentence as published] That is one policy initiative that was, I would say, very significant.

The other one is focusing on the morale and the welfare and the career development of our personnel. In the past, we had certain people holding two, three or four nice jobs because they were the favorites. And if you will recall in my statement on the 22nd of February 1986 when I decided to withdraw my support and the support of the command that I headed which was the entire Philippine Constabulary [PC] INP [Integrated National Police], I mentioned that there had been created an AFP within the AFP and that the AFP was no longer the Armed Forces of the people.

I think we can still continue to count on the chain of command of the AFP headed now by Gen. de Villa and under the commander in chief, the President. And the resepct for and adherence to that chain of command goes all the way down to the lowet company commander, platoon leader and squad leader.

Now of course, there have been dissidents within the ranks of the military, but I would say that comparing '86 to '87 to '89, that number has been reduced. What we're seeing now is some of these remnants of the military rebels trying to tie up with the civilian supporters and vice versa because each have a use for the other and they would be more effective, in fact, if they collaborated.

Sir, what should civilians like us do, when we are confronted with coup rumors.

Why don't you check with the nearest person in authority that you know maybe a mayor or a commander in the vicinity. And certainly we at higher headquarters are always available to clarify reports. There is a public service telephone in the NCR [National Capital Region]—dial 7575. It is really the Capcom [Capital Regional Command] that services inquiries about matters of this nature. There is also this anti-rumor committee that is still working at the CRS [Civil Relations Service].

How seriously we should take these rumors [sentence as published]. The military is always saying the plotters cannot mount a successful coup but they can mount small group actions. But you know, civilians cannot always distinguish between the two.

We are in a crisis situation where there are many problems. We have the continued attempts to hit people in our urban centers that in some cases have been successful; the aftermath of the earthquake; the impact of the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. These create a new kind of uncertainty and tension in the atmosphere. And these are the very fertile ground for rumors to become bigger than what they are.

Now, the military method of analyzing these things is not really very different from what takes place in the corporate world, the world of managers. We're looking at three levels: the intention, which is something in the mind of one person; the plan, which is the same intention among a group of people that have arranged their intentions into some kind of a logical plot. But it is still the capability of carry out the plan that we are looking at as the final bottomline so that we can react accordingly. Suppose we reacted to every rumor, we would be flying off in a thousand different directions and not accomplishing anything.

So, we look at the capabilities, we look at resources, we look at means of mobility, communications, and then we look at our own resources, our own defenses, so to speak, in the military and make our plans and countermeasures accordingly.

Right after the earthquake, there was this offer by the Right-wing military rebels for a ceasefire. Was this ever treated seriously?

Well, look at the circumstances about this offer. It was a very short statement not even authenticated as coming from of their officials. Certainly it could not be verified whether it was really the military Rightist leaders that said this. But at the time this was made, we were in the midst of the rescue and recovery of victims and survivors and the relief operations in Baguio and Benguet.

I think this arose out of an incident in which somebody who was among the wanted military rebels had an encounter with the law enforcers in Baguio because his name and picture, and of course his biodata, is well-known to those that are trying to hunt these wanted military rebels. And so, the query came from their side, why are the law enforcers shooting at us at a time when we were trying to rescue people. Well, my answer to that was if they want to rescue people, why don't they join the military rescue team. Because how effective could they be?

About the relief operations disaster control operations: You were very visible going from place to place. But the media said that government was ineffective and that it was not prepared to deal with calamity.

You know, its very difficult to answer all of those criticisms to the satisfaction of everybody. Because if someone who is affected is being interviewed and that person did not receive his or her share of the relief goods due that community, then immediately, government is taken to task. But maybe what they may not be aware of is that relief goods were distributed to the community, through the efforts of government and the private sector.

There is also the matter of the immediate and timely rescue of victims. Well, I must emphasize that preparedness and decentralization are still the main pillars of our national disaster coordinating council programs. The council is a coordinating council that the implementation, the carrying out of the task are decentralized down to the local government level and the local offices of our national line agencies supported the civilian volunteers. In many places, that was worked out very well, but in some places it has not worked out the way we would have liked to see it.

And so, we are now trying to learn from those lessons, by assessing the performance of each local chairman of our disaster coordinating council network. In a place where nobody seems to know who is in charge, well, under our national system which is provided for by law, it is the mayor of the town or city or the governor of the province that is affected that are in charge, and at national level, I am in charge. Now, as I said, there was a spotty performance by all.

We must try to make that as satisfactory as possible throughout. We must also develop some new capabilities which we don't have now, and that's the immediate deployment of a dedicated rescue and recovery force.

On the second day after the earthquake, I directed the DND [Department of National Defense] and the AFP to already study the formation of such a force from within our available units. The problem in the Armed Forces is that we do have these units, and they are dedicated men, but they are not exclusively for use in disaster and calamities. Why? Because they are also fighting the CPP/NPA, they are deployed in places outside the calamity area. It is a luxury, but if that is what the people want, then we must invest in that luxury. Now, as to what will be the form of this is precisely the subject of the study what will it cause. [sentence as published]

Will it be like Rescue 911?

Again we are governed by a lot of very high-tech and highly sophisticated rescue organizations like this one in Los Angeles—911. You can have it if you want it to invest on it all over the country. What we are trying to do now is create the most cost- effective organization because we are looking at all kinds of calamities, especially the more recurrent ones like typhoons.

Insofar as typhoons are concerned, I think we are much better prepared than we were say, five years ago. Why? It is because of the decentralization of everything.

Many people give much credit to the former first lady—she was always daw [allegedly] there in the midde of these things. But that was the main defect of all these because calamity operations centered on one person. It is not the way it should be done. The DSWD [Department of Social Welfare and Development] for instance, under this concept has decentralized the stock pile of relief goods and this provides for a more speedy delivery. Secondly, we have now involved more agencies of the government other than the DSWD and the DND. Thirdly, there is a training program that backs up the policies of the NDCC [National Disaster Coordinating Council]. But we really have not been able to complete the program all over the country, because we're talking about 1,600 towns and cities and 42,000 barangays.

We have been first to admit that even with the support of the Philippine National Red Cross, that training program has not yet achieved what I call a satisfactory degree, so that in at least our island towns and coastal villages we have a life saving capability, wala pa ho iyan [that is still non-existent]. Now, earthquakes are somethign else but one of the lessons learned is to invest more in Phivolcs and in Pagasa [Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Science Administration].

There's a lot of talk in the media about your allegedly rocky relations with the Palace. There's talk that the President is uncomfortable with you because you are presidential material. What is the real score?

Well, to tell you frankly, I'm very confident that I enjoy the confidence of the President herself. I have access to her. If I ask for a meeting with her, it's readily given if she has the time and I have not yet been refused. Secondly, we really consult each other. There's a fax machine that connects our two offices. There is a hot line telephone or a series of hot line telephones to her office and to her residence. And we have the same kind of a system among three of us—Gen. de Villa, myself and the

President. And that is the network that provides easy consultation and I would say develops good teamwork among the three of us.

In regard to being presidential material, well, this is what a lot of people say. Maybe its because of the high ratings that the DND and the AFP and myself get in the surveys. But for myself, if the surveys are highly flattering to us who are in the AFP or in the Department, I say that thatis really the rating of the entire organization, not the margin of satisfaction on the part of the people for any individual in the department and the Armed Forces.

It's also been said that your rating remains high because you've remained loyal to the President and the Constitution and without that you'd have miserable ratings, like Enrile...

Well, we are loyal. We are loyal to the President as an institution and we are loyal to all other institutions under the Constitution under our democracy and I think again we have been consistent with that. I'm talking about the leadership of the Armed Forces when I was in the active service and the present one now under Gen. de Villa and also the leadership of the defense establishment. And I think it should be that way regardless of who are the people at the helm of these organizations. The rank and file have to be led and that is why we have been steadily professionalizing the officer corps.

Now, who are those that say otherwise? Most of these are the people that precisely we've been trying to discipline. So why should the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] under Honasan keep criticizing the leadership for the so-called factionalism of the Armed Forces? Its because they themselves are the ones who are now out. They could not adhere to and respect the constitutional requirement of respecting the law, respecting due process and adhering to the chain of command, they tried to create their own chain of command by passing those that have gone up step by step through their careers. They wanted short cuts and precisely because we did not allow this, we stopped them, we confronted them and we defeated them, we prevailed over them, and that is why they are so vehement now in their criticisms. Now, of course, this is to be expected but we must follow the will of the mainstream.

What is the story behind the Elma Committee ruling recalling its own order stopping all investigation of the Magallanes incident? It looked like the result of the manifesto that went around the AFP and was signed by over a hundred officers that it came about.

I'll tell you what I know about it. When resolution No. 5 came out, there was a portion there that was a little vague in relation to its applicability to criminal investigation and judicial procedures. The question raised by Gen. de Villa was—and this was in the meeting that we had presided by the President; I was there, Gen. de Villa, Gen. Nazareno, Gen. Biazon in his capacity as NCRC [National Capital region Command] commander, Gen. Aguirre as Deputy Chief of Staff of the AFP, Col. Nacatee, the Commanding Officer of the PC-CIS [Criminal Investigation Services], Gen. Casaclang, the Jago [Judge-Advocate General's Office], then Exec. Sec. Macaraig, Sec. of Justice Drilon, Justice Elma his two colleagues on the committee, Usec. [Under Secretary] Quisumbing of DND, and Usec. Montenegro of Justice—this was Friday afternoon Aug. 3rd—Gen. de Villa said that the issue is not the pre-trial investigation now being conducted by the provincial prosecutor of Rizal and the Jago because there is both a civil and a military jurisdiction involved here because policemen and military personnel are still subject to court martial under the law. So that was discussed and it was made clear by the Sec. of Justice that insofar as the civilian courts were concerned (and that process starts with the filing of the criminal complaint before the fiscal), in effect the committee's Resolution No. 5 suspended and stopped all of those procedures because the fiscal anyway has to give a certain number of days for the respondents to submit their counteraffidavits.

However, it was brought out that—and this was again the point that was very vigorously defended by Gen. de Villa, Casaclang and the others—the resolution of the Elma Commission would not apply in a judicial process. In other words, an executive resolution or a resolution of a group under the executive branch would not serve to suspend or nullify judicial processes because that's different branch of government; and also in the case of the military courts having jurisdiction over policemen and military personnel, this should not apply.

And so it was agreed in that meeting that a clarificatory resolution would be issued by the Elma Committee and they agreed to put it out as soon as possible.

Now, it was Saturday was when the PC manifesto came out. Apparently, the word did not get down to them that there was already a Resolution No. 6 I think that manifesto was drafted sometime before Friday, the 3rd.

Was this manifesto talked about during your meeting with the President.

No, of course not.

What will happen if it turns out that the NBI [National Bureau of Investigation] version of the de Guzman killing is true?

We do not know, we cannot speculate. But again let me make it clear that number one, we do not condone any criminal activity much less something like trafficking in dangerous drugs. We would be the first to condemn it and we would go after the people that are involved, which is what we have been doing anyway. Secondly, the Elma Committee was requested to look into certain things—policy matters—not just the incident itself, because I think that if the policies are reviewed and everybody in the law enforcement community is made to conform, then we will prevent a recurrence of similar incidents.

Like what to do with suspects? Not to kill them summarily?

There is a clear division of labor as to what you need to handle certain kinds of criminal offenses. Certainly not everybody barges into every case that they stumble upon and they do it themselves. Because there is a matter of expertise involved, there is also a matter of statutory authority that is involved. And so that must be reviewed.

Now, secondly, aside from the division of labor, there must be a review of the coordinating arrangements that must be made. At least when I was the chairman of the National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee as Chief of the Constabulary in the early 80s, we had that respect for coordination that must be instituted. It is still the Chief of Constabulary-Director General INP that is the chairman of their group.

Then there is the aspect of—and this is well-known to every law enforcer—how do you effect an arrest? There are certain rules. And so, that is what I think the Elma Committee is also looking at.

That the touchiest part.

This is not NBI vs. the AFP. It is not even NBI vs. Nolcom [Northern Luzon Command]. Yet that are a lot of people reporting on this matter who are saying so. No, this is just a part of the NBI and a very small element of the Armed Forces that are involved with this controversy. I look upon both organizations as important partners in providing for the peace and order of our communities and the safety of our people. Now, I think we should discourage any further attempt to pit one organization against the other. It is not good for the general welfare of our country.

Further Reportage on Manila, Rural Disturbances

Police, Military Still Alerted

HK2008050590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Aug 90 p 13

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] All military and police units in Metro Manila continued yesterday to be on red alert in the wake of more bombings in the metropolis.

This was disclosed yesterday by Col. [Colonel] Juanito Rimando, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] spokesman, who said that security measures have been tightened in and around major camps in Metro Manila since last Friday, following reports of new coup threats by the REBOLUSYONARYONG ALYANSANG MAKABAYAN-KAWAL NG SAMBAYANAND PILIPINO (RAM-KSP) [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People (SFP)], led by former Army Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

Rimando expressed belief that the bombs used were "leftovers" in the last Dec. 1-7 coup attempt. The explosives were stolen by the rebels from the AFP armory. Police said that the explosives used in the Makati bombing, particularly at the Department of Trade and Industry and the Board of Investments, were C-4 type Claymore bombs. C-4 type explosives are issued only to military personnel.

Rimando said the full alert status will remain until the peace and order condition in Metro Manila goes back to normal.

Police Countering Threat

HK2008093990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0750 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Live report by Josette Olivera from Camp Aguinaldo]

[Text] Fifteen thousand Constabulary and police personnel, armed with modern weapons, vehicles, and communication equipment, will be deployed in Metro Manila starting tomorrow to ensure the metropolis' peace and order. The move is in response to growing cases of explosions and other violence in Metro Manila. This was learned today from Brigadier General Marino Filart, chief of the Capital Region Command [Capcom], who stated the move was ordered by PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary- Integrated National Police] chief Major General Cesar Nazareno to ensure peace and order in Metro Manila, which has deteriorated in recent days.

According to Filart, Nazareno has approved the provision of additional equipment worth 2 million pesos to Capcom. This includes 20 new police jeeps, 300 motorcycles, and new radio sets to be used by PC-INP men.

Filart also said the recent spate of explosions in Metro Manila was intended by its perpertrators to sow discord in the country. He called on the public to help the government resolve the country's problems. He also asked all commanders and superintendants to be alert at all times to stop the terroristic activities of extreme rightists.

Aquino Rules Out Emergency

HK2008102590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Aug 90

[By Dick Sinchongco]

[Text] President Aquino stressed that it is not yet time to declare a national state of emergency following a recent spate of bombings in Metro Manila. In a news conference, the president said the declaration of a state of emergency to stop any attempt by rebel soldiers against the government is uncalled for. The president made the statement after the military assured they are in control of the situation following a report of a new coup.

Meanwhile, the president justified the dry run and exercise by military elements:

[Begin Aquino recording in English] It is always best to be prepared, and in so far as the dry run here in the palace is concerned, we have had that quite often. In fact, it has paid off, as you can see from the last two very serious coup attempts.

So, it is good that all of our forces are prepared and are very good in these exercises, so that in the event of any coup attempt, we will be prepared to put down whatever forces or whatever capabilities they have. [end recording]

The president also said the series of bombings were perpetrated by terrorists. She asserted that the government is closely monitoring the developments in the country following a threat by former Colonel Gregorio Honasan of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement to launch a new attack against the government.

Mandaluyong Police Station Hit

HK2108030090 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Aug 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Mike Baluyot and correspondent Rolando Pascual]

[Text] Urban terrorists, continuing their campaign to destabilize the Government, shot up a police sub-station in Mandaluyong early yesterday morning, injuring one bystander. The attack came one day after a bomb exploded at the Justice Department compound, feeding rumors of an impending coup.

Major General Rodolfo Biazon, Armed Forces vice chief of staff, blamed the both attacks on rebel soldiers.

"How else can you explain the seeming disregard for the destruction of any target at all?" he asked. Late last night, Congress decided to suspend sessions from tomorrow until Monday next week "to enable congressmen to go to their respective districts and rally the people against any attempted coup."

According to Speaker Ramon Mitra, "We are making it clear that most House members believe no coup attempt will succeed at this time—this is just a precautionary measure." Speaker Protempore Antonio Curenco said, "There is a 10% chance of success (of a coup) but we do not want to take any chance."

President Aquino said she would not declare a state of emergency or seek emergency powers. She said military officials had assured her that rebel soldiers "do not have the capability" to mount a coup as "serious and as bloody" as the previous coup attempts.

"What we are up against are terrorists who are not at all regarding their fellow Filipinos," she said. Police and Constabulary forces in Manila were given extra equipment to increase their firepower, mobility and communications.

Brigadier General Marino Filart, chief of the PC [Philippine Constabulary] Capital Regional Command (Capcom) and the Metropolitan Police Force (MPF), said the PC/INP [Integrated National Police] men had been given 300 motorcycles, 20 patrol jeeps 300 handheld radio sets, and more than 1,000 high-powered M-14 and M-16 rifles. Filart also said that to cope with the terrorism, the military would deploy police and PC soldiers in Manila's commercial establishments, banks and roads from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. to react to bank robberies and hold-ups. Aside from this, he said, checkpoints would be set up at night and the number of foot and mobile patrols would be increased between 10 p.m. and early morning.

Major Agustin Cabales, Quezon City Station 4 commander, said that all of the city's five stations were on red alert.

On Sunday a bomb exploded inside the Mechanical Equipment Building at the Shoemart complex along E. delos Santos Avenue in Quezon City. Despite the measures, Filart said, "I must admit that it is really very difficult to check the terrorists."

In yesterday's attack, the terrorists drove up before Sub-station one on Reliance and Pioneer streets aboard a red car with no license plates. Then they opened fire with assault rifles, blasting office equipment and hitting several vehicles, and forcing the four policemen inside the sub-station to drop flat on the floor. Eric Torilla, 18, who was walking nearby, was hit in the arm. Police said his injuries were not serious.

It was the third attack on a police station this year. In March, a police outpost in Fairview, Quezon City, was damaged when terrorists attacked it. On Saturday last week, a bomb exploded a few meters from Station 8 or the Western Police District.

A military officer who declined to be identified said that the rebels were probably going to attack the National Bureau of Investigation building along Taft Avenue in Manila, facilities of firms owned by presidential relatives as well as properties of known critics of the RAM-Sep [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People].

Western District on Red Alert

HK2008050790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Aug 90 p 13

[By Victor Vega]

[Text] The Western Police District (WPD) was placed on full red alert today, following a bomb explosion that rocked WPD Station No. 8 on Sta. Mesa, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) building in Ermita last Saturday evening.

Another bomb exploded at 11:05 p.m. last Saturday night at the Republic Flour Mills Corp. (RFM) in Mandaluyong, injuring its security chief.

Probers said carriding men hurled a bomb at Station No. 8 in Sta. Mesa, damaging the fence.

Capt. [Captain] Salvador Reyes, commander of the station, said the suspects in a blue Lancer car fled towards Ramon Magsaysay Blvd. Reyes said the station had been receiving bomb threats during the past four days from male callers.

At the DOJ on Padre Faura St. in Ermita, a bomb exploded at the main gate 2:30 a.m. yesterday morning.

Col. [Colonel] Pacifico Villalino, commander of WPD Station No. 5, said witnesses saw three men put a small package near the DOJ gate before the blast.

Col. Ricardo Reyes, WPD operations chief, said the entire WPD is on full alert.

In Mandaluyong, three men tossed a homemade bomb at the exit of the RFM building on Pioneer St., destroying the door and injuring security guard Roberto Chavez, 40. Chavez said he was inspecting the building premises before the explosion.

Police learned that the RFM, run by Jose Concepcion III, son of Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr., had been warned by phone callers that the establishments owned by the Concepcions will be bombed.

Nine Farmers Massacred

HK2108031090 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Aug 90 p 7

[By Rey Nitura]

[Text] Cotabato City—Nine farmers were tied and shot dead last Sunday night by unidentified armed men in Bgy. Blansong, Upi town in Maguindanao.

One of the survivors, Alberto Agustin, a corn farmer, told reporters that more than 10 heavily-armed men burst into a small hut where they were resting on Sunday eveing, saying it was a holdup. The nine were tied, made to kneel, and shot with pistols and rifles in the head and back, Agustin said.

Among those killed were Toh Vismanos, 24, and Candido Dian, 32, the house owner.

Agustin escaped by running away in the darkness despite sustaining gunshot wounds in the back and leg. He was brought to a nearby hospital. He said that one of the suspects said they were retaliating the death of their relatives who were also massacred. The suspects fled with the victims' 17 cows and carabaos, he added. Dian's neighbors' said that two weeks ago, three members of the Penalver family were killed inside their house in Upi by unidentified men.

Police said they have received no information on the latest massacre and are investigating the incident.

Further Reportage on Government-Rebel Conflict

Manhunt for Noble Continues

HK2008115290 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 20 Aug 90 p 6

[By Carol Arguillas]

[Text] Davao City—The month-long military operations to flush out renegade Army Col. [Colonel] Alexander Noble from the hinterlands of Agusan del Sur "will not stop until we get Noble," Southern Command Chief Maj. Gen. [Major General] Manuel Dizon anounced here.

Civilian deaths among the people who fled to evacuation centers have risen to three, all babies. The latest was a three-day-old baby, Lorilei Criman, who was born prematurely two days after her mother fled their sitio.

Dizon told reporters he was optimistic the operations would be concluded "within a matter of weeks," allegedly because Noble's tribal supporters had begun deserting him. He did not elaborate. Dizon and Army Chief Maj. Gen. Guillermo Flores, who visited Army camps and attended a reunion of Philippine Military Academy Class '59 here, also laughed off reports that 15 Marine troopers were killed and 32 others wounded.

"I am amazed by the figure," Flores told the CHRONICLE. "When I read the newspaper reports, immediately I knew it was just propaganda (of RAM) [Reform the Armed Forces Movement]. I just laughed," Flores said, adding no soldier was killed. Flores said three soldiers—an Army second lieutenant and two Marine troopers—were "slightly wounded" by home-made weapons and from falling into a trap, "but no one was wounded by gunshot."

But an Army trooper was killed and another wounded Friday when armed men, believed to be Noble's supporters, fired on troopers negotiating a trail leading to Noble's camp, the Media Mindanao News Service (MMNS) reporting from Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, said yesterday. MMNS said Maj. Sabino Sumapig, commander of Army's 8th Infantry Battalion's Bravo Company identified the dead as PFC [Private First Class], Virgilio Quimson. The wounded was identified as PFC. Pachinillo Laganto. MMNS also said the number of Higaonon residents who fled some 24 hinterland barangay in Esperanza has reached 7,681 individuals, almost thrice the figure (564 families with 2,797 dependents) released by the Department of Social Welfare and Development as of July 27.

Other than Criman, two other babies, 9-month-old Elma Jon Luca, and Merline Hagonoy, aged 1 year and 5 months, died from brochitis and malnutrition last month.

The mass exodus was prompted by announcements that the area where Noble was reportedly hiding would be bombed on July 16 if Noble did not surrender. Noble, former chief of staff of the elite Presidential Security Group, had taken refuge in the hinterlands of Esperanza, where he became an adopted tribal chieftain, after the failed December coup.

Military officials in Northern Mindanao told the CHRONICLE two months ago that flushing Noble out of the hinterlands was difficult, be cause the area is thickly forested and military operations would disclocate thousands of Higaonons. But early last month, leaflets and posters bearing Noble's photograph were distributed by hand or airdropped. The leaflets promised a P [peso] 500,000 reward "for anybody who can provide leads for Noble's capture."

Flores told the CHRONICLE that Noble had been given enough chance to surrender, but he refused to do so. "Since he is claiming "wala siyang kaso" [he has no case] then he should come down," Flores said. He said an "information campaign" had been launched before the operations, "specially among the tribesmen."

Residents Urge Halt to Manhunt

HK2108031290 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Aug 90 p 9

[By staff members Carol Arguillas and Manny Mogato]

[Text] Esperanza, Agusan del Sur—An estimated 8,000 evacuees yesterday appealed to President Aquino to immediately call off military operations against renegade army Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Alexander Noble as supplies of relief goods can no longer meet the refugees' food needs.

About 50 more families on board rafts fled to this riverside town over the last two days, bringing to 8,090 the recorded number of evacuees fleeing military operations to flush out Noble.

"The state of anxiety heightens everyday," Mayor Filomeno Conol told the Chronicle yesteday. Conol said the military operations against Noble is "not the solution" and was only disrupting the lives of the ciivlians. He said that the "multi-million operation is also very costly for the governmnet."

Conol said supplies from the Department of Social Welfare and Development were running out and "more families (were) still fleeing the hinterlands." He added that the President should be informed that the military failed to notify the local officials here about the operations against Noble.

Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, however, insisted that the military was only conducting "persuasive actions" in Agusan del Sur to pressure Noble and his followers to give up and return to the government's fold. Ramos claimed there were no heavy bombings or shelling in the area but confirmed reports of the military's effort to constrict Noble's base in the hinterlands of Esperanza.

Noble has about 200 armed followers, mostly anti-communist hill tribesmen trained as Cafgu [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] volunteers and dismissed soldiers and some military officers suspected of participating in the failed December coup.

A report from the military command in Region 10 said that a Cpl. [Corporal] Urbano Luntod was wounded when his team, the 8th Infantry Division, were fired upon by snipers believed to be with Noble's group in Bgy. Bunaguit, Esperanza, last Sunday. Four soldiers involved in hunting down Noble have been wounded over the past two weeks.

Interviewed at the Senate, Ramos denied that there were attempts to suppress news information about the fighting in Agusan del Sur but warned about the safety of reporters going here. He added: "We're still conducting "search, protect, and persuade" operations because the efforts of the civilians has not been productive. The persuasion aspect now contains military pressure to isolate Noble from his sources of support like good, financial and manpower."

Ramos also said that only 1,500 soldiers, and not seven military maneuver battalions, were hunting down Noble.

NPA Rebels Attack Town Hall

HK2108025890 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Aug 90 p 8

[By staffmember Carol Arguillas]

[Text] Patin-Ay, Prosperidad, Aguasan del Sur-Some 300 suspected communist rebels carted away eight firearms after briefly holding hostage the police chief and three other policemen in an attack on the San Luis town hall at about 5:00 a.m. yesterday morning.

San Luis town is near the boundary of Esperanza, where government troopers have been deployed to flush out renegade army Col. [Colonel] Alexander Noble.

Reports reaching the governor's office here also said an NPA [New People's Army] commander was reportedly killed when a team of Cafgu [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] elements, who rushed to the rescue of the policemen, fired at the rebels.

Taken by the rebels were four armalites, two garrands, one magnum, one caliber .38 pistol.

San Luis Police Chief Cpl. [Corporal] Reynaldo Orlandez said in his report that one Kumander Ondo, who introduced himself as Capt. [Captain] Hernandez of the Army's 8th Infantry Batallion, came to the police station which is housed at the townhall, shortly before 5:00 a.m. yestereay.

Orlandez, Cpl. Zosimo Taclubong, Patrolmen Aping Pilitan, and Espiridion Palma were the only ones manning the station at the time of the attack.

MNLF Rebels Surrender

HK2108053090 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0325 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Twenty Moro National Liberation Front rebels surrendered to military authorities in Labason, Zamboanga del Sur on Sunday [19 August] afternoon.

According to a report by Colonel Renato Garcia, commanding officer of the 103d Army Brigade, those who surrendered, headed by Commander Kutong Lintua, turned over 18 assorted guns. The rebels requested loans and the construction of an Arabic school and a mosque in Labason, bunkhouses for their families, and roads in their town.

The negotiation for their surrender was headed by Lieutenant Colonel Felipe Beroya, the commanding officer of the 51st Infantry Battalion, and Captain Eli Ramos of the 449th Constabulary Company.

Thailand

Further Reportage on Gulf Crisis, Domestic Impact

Foreign Investment Said Unaffected

BK2008024190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Aug 90 p b2

[Text] The Middle East crisis has had no short-term impact on foreign investment in Thailand's manufacturing sector as many companies, particularly from South Korea and Taiwan, continue to pursue their projects to set up industrial plants here, according to the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand [IEAT].

Prempracha Suphasamut, director of the IEAT's promotion and service division, said foreign investors had not suspended their projects because they are still confident of the strong economic fundamentals of the Thai economy.

The Eastern Seaboard is the most popular place for foreign investment, although some projects are planned for the north and central regions.

Wikrom Khuwatcharacharoen, chairman of the Bangpakong industrial estate, said the Middle East crisis, however, could have a long-term impact on new manufacturing projects because oil price rises caused by Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the military confrontation in the Middle East would push up production costs and slow worldwide economic growth.

He noted that a growing number of Taiwanese and South Korean investors have shifted to invest in China because wages are cheaper there.

In addition, several Taiwanese and South Korean firms are afraid of being cheated in land deals in Thailand.

390 Workers To Arrive From Dhahran

BK2008160390 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] According to a report from Thai nationals in Saudi Arabia, the situation at the Saudi-Kuwait border was tense. As of 1800, the time in Saudi Arabia, or 2200 here [1500 GMT 19 August], the Iraqi forces stationed along the border started moving closer to Saudi Arabia. The situation was reported tense along the border, including in Dhahran, which is an oil refinery center. Preparations by Saudi Arabia and the international forces have become more vigorous.

Concerning the transfer of Thai workers fleeing from Kuwait to Dhahran to catch flights back to Thailand, a report from the Thai charge d'affaires said a task force center had been set up, and today 390 Thai workers would be flown back. The first group of 360 would return by Thai International's special flight and will arrive in Bangkok at 0745 tomorrow. Another group of 30 workers would return on the TG 504 flight and will arrive in Bangkok at 0930 tomorrow. There are 14 women in this group of 390 workers.

151 Workers Return

BK2108024190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] About 700 Thai workers who escaped from Iraqi-occupied Kuwait into Saudi Arabia and Jordan will be evacuated on Thai Airways International flights which will arrive at Don Muang Airport today, a Foreign Ministry's spokesman said.

So far 151 Thai workers who fled Kuwait following the Iraqi invasion of the Gulf state on August 2 have been brought home.

Kopsak Chutikun, an ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry, said the government asked Thai Airways (THAI) to send two planes to Dhahran in Saudi Arabia to bring home some 500 Thais. A chartered flight from the airlines of the United Arab Emirates [UAE] was scheduled to pick up another 200 Thais in Amman, Jordan.

He said the 700 workers had recently fled from Kuwait and reached safety in Saudi Arabia and Jordan. He said there were still about 5,000 Thais trapped in Kuwait and 3,000 in Iraq.

The ambassador said the first THAI flight carrying about 210 workers from Dhahran would arrive at Don Muang Airport at about 8 am; the second flight from Dhahran with 180 workers would land at about 10.30 pm.

But a Labour Department source said the first THAI flight would arrive at about 7.30 am; the second would arrive at 9.40 am.

The source also said the chartered UAE flight with 223 workers who fled from Kuwait through Iraq would arrive at Don Muang about 10.30 pm today.

Kopsak said the government expects to evacuate most of the remaining Thai workers in Kuwait. The government has sought permission from Saudi Arabia and Iraq to allow Thai workers in Kuwait to either travel to Saudi Arabia or to Jordan through Iraq, Kopsak said.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday also summoned the Iraqi ambassador to Thailand, Munir Shihab Ahmad al-Bayati, to express concern about news reports that many Thai women had been raped by Iraqi soldiers during the early days of the occupation in Kuwait.

Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan urged the Iraqi government to ensure the safe passage for Thai workers leaving Kuwait and Iraq. Praphat also asked for Munir Shihab to see if Iraq could help facilitate the transport of food to Thais still stranded in Kuwait.

The Iraqi ambassador told reporters after his meeting with Praphat that, "I assure you in my capacity as the ambassador that Thai workers in Kuwait and Iraq are in good health and safe."

"These workers are friends to our country and Thailand is our friend. We shall do our best to facilitate the evacuation of any Thai workers who want to leave through Iraq to Jordan," he said.

But Munir Shihab denied news reports that some Thai women working as maids in Kuwait had been sexually assaulted by Iraqi soldiers, urging reporters to not believe "fake stories" that accused Iraqi soldiers of such deeds.

Iraqi Envoy: Rape 'Fake Stories'

BK2008161390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 20 (AFP)—An Iraqi diplomat here Monday dismissed as propaganda accounts by Thai workers of the rapes of Thai and Filipina women by Iraqi troops in Kuwait.

"Please do not listen to the these fake stories. They are made in the (United) States and in Britain. They are our enemies," said Iraq's ambassador to Thailand, Munir Shihab Ahmad al-Bayati.

Thai workers who arrived here from Kuwait Sunday told reporters that many Thai and Filipina women had been raped and beaten by Iraqi soldiers during the early days of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"We are a very civilized country ... Our Armed Forces are highly disciplined," the ambassador said.

The ambassador was speaking at a press conference here after a meeting with Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan, who had expressed concern for the safety of Thai nationals trapped in Kuwait by the Iraqi invasion.

Promising that Thai workers and their families were "safe and in good health," the ambassador said they would be allowed to continue to return to their country. "We shall do our best to facilitate the evacuation of any Thai who wants to leave Iraq by way of Jordan," the ambassador said.

Air Chief Marshal Wira Kittikhachon, president of the national flag carrier Thai Airways International, announced that two chartered flights bearing Thai workers and their families would arrive in Bangkok Tuesday. One was a Thai airline flight from Dhahran carrying some 240 people and the other an Emirates Airline flight with 233 aboard.

Mr. Praphat has asked a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) diplomat for assistance in getting food and supplies to the Thai Embassy in Kuwait and in facilitating the evacuation of Thais, Foreign Ministry official Kopsak Chutikun said. "The PLO has an embassy in Kuwait. They get around easily," Mr. Kopsak explained.

Said al-Masri, the PLO's ambassador to Hanoi, was passing through Bangkok on Monday when Mr. Praphat invited him for a meeting, Mr. Kopsak said.

Chatchai on Evacuating Workers

BK2108070590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Answering questions from newsmen at Government House this morning about assistance for Thai workers in Kuwait, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan said large aircraft have been sent to pick up workers. Asked about the Iraqi instructions for all embassies in Kuwait to close by 24 August, the prime minister said Thailand will have to consult with Iraq on this issue because Thai officials need to remain in Kuwait to supervise the welfare and evacuation of Thai workers. This task, particularly the evacuation of female workers and children who cannot travel by themselves, has not been completed.

The prime minister said a cabinet reshuffle will be considered after parliament completes passage of the 1991 budget bill.

Concerning the Iraqi Government's instructions that all embassies in Kuwait close by 24 August and Prime Minister Gen. Chatchai's statement that the Thai Embassy in Kuwait will be kept operational to help Thai workers until they have all been evacuated, Foreign Ministry spokesman Somphong Faichampa said today that Atiphon Chapchitchaidon, the charge of the Thai Embassy in Kuwait, had reported to the Foreign Ministry that the meeting of embassy officials on 19 August unanimously agreed that embassy officials and their families totaling 36 people would volunteer to remain in Kuwait to share the fate of Thai workers remaining in

Kuwait and would leave only after all workers have safely left Kuwait. Somphong said the Foreign Ministry had sent a message to the embassy officials and their families commending their sacrifice and dedication. However, considering the situation and safety, the Foreign Ministry asked that families and officials not directly concerned depart Kuwait, leaving only three officials in Kuwait to carry out their duties. The Thai Embassy in Baghdad has already despatched officials to Kuwait to assist in the evacuation of Thai workers there.

Japanese Foreign Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia

OW1808043090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0351 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 18 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left Bangkok for Saudi Arabia on Saturday on the first leg of an eight-day tour of five Middle Eastern countries to explore how Japan can contribute to peace and stability in the Gulf region.

Chawalit, Watanabe Discuss Cambodian Issue

OW1808065290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0602 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 18 KYODO—Former Thai Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut on Saturday stressed the importance of including all four warring factions in Cambodia in the peace process to end the 11-year civil war in that country. In a meeting with Michio Watanabe, former chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Chawalit also said he thinks a shift in U.S. policy toward Cambodia is just tactical and does not mean a fundamental change in the U.S. approach to the conflict, according to officials accompanying Watanabe.

In mid-July, Washington announced that it is withdrawing recognition of the Cambodian resistance coalition, which includes the Khmer Rouge, and opening a dialogue with Vietnam on resolving the war. Meanwhile, the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations has pursued a comprehensive political solution with all four Cambodian factions.

Chawalit was quoted as telling Watanabe that China has not supplied arms for some time to the Khmer Rouge, the strongest military faction in the Cambodian resistance. The Thai general also revealed that he will meet Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh government next Tuesday to discuss creation of a supreme national council [SNC], a proposed provisional government to rule Cambodia pending election of a permanent government.

Watanabe, who heads a major faction within the LDP, left Tokyo on Friday for a two-week, four-nation Southeast Asian tour. Watanabe will arrive in Cambodia on Sunday to meet the country's supreme leader, Heng Samrin, and other high-ranking officials. He will later go to Vietnam and Indonesia.

Chawalit said when he meets Hun Sen, he will try to persuade the Phnom Penh government to attend a meeting in Jakarta proposed under the framework of the Paris international conference on Cambodia by its co-chairman, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. Chawalit said the three Cambodian resistance factions have already agreed to attend the Jakarta meeting, aiming to discuss formulation of the SNC.

Phnom Penh, through a senior official visiting Bangkok last week, insisted that the Jakarta gathering should be regarded as the first meeting of the SNC, since an agreement to establish the SNC was reached in the Tokyo communique signed in June by Hun Sen and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Chawalit told the Japanese visitors that he is not confident that the SNC could be established before the United Nations General Assembly convenes, as desired by the ASEAN. ASEAN hopes to see the SNC formed before the U.N. assembly so it can take Cambodia's seat in the U.N., replacing the resistance coalition government, which is losing support from the United States and the European Community.

Chawalit also said the Khmer Rouge, which the international community fears will seek to regain power, is actively preparing for general elections, expected to be organized after the national reconciliation.

Watanabe's delegation will be the first Japanese parliamentary team to visit Cambodia with which Japan has no diplomatic tie. Japanese Government officials, however, have visited Phnom Penh twice in the past six months.

Lao Army Chief Gives Speech in Bangkok

BK2008045190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Speech by Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army and head of the military delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, delivered at a ceremony at the Thai Armed Forces Supreme Command Headquarters in Bangkok on 17 August 1990—recorded]

[Text] Respected General Sunthon Khongsomphong, supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand;

Beloved distinguished and honorable Thai and Lao personalities:

Today we, members of the high-level military delegation of the Lao People's Army [LPA], are extremely happy to have the opportunity to pay another visit to the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and General Suchinda Khraprayun. During this visit, we have the opportunity to meet and to share the same dining table with you once again. We have brought with us the good will, friendship, and greetings of the Lao people and the LPA to the entire officers and rank and file of the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand and to the Thai people. We wish you good health and successes in performing your duties.

Distinguished personalities, the high-level military delegation of the LPA, which is currently paying an official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand, has come here with the intention of contributing to strengthening the relations of friendship between the two peoples and Armed Forces of Laos and Thailand. The Lao and Thai peoples are anxiously waiting for the outcome of the consultation between our two military delegations. Therefore, we should foster and maintain mutual trust and work together to resolve the remaining problems to bring peace and happiness to our two countries and peoples.

Distinguished personalities, the remaining problems which must be realistically resolved together by us are as follows:

1. At present, all people abhor war. People only seek ways to communicate and hold talks with one another to find means to live together in peace. A country that is bent on waging a war of aggression against another country will eventually be condemned by the world's people. We, the people in Southeast Asia, are also seeking ways to end the war in Cambodia.

2. Both the Lao and Thai peoples cherish peace. We desire time to build our respective countries and improve our living conditions. We detest war. We do not want our children to get killed for no reason. We, the Lao people in particular, want to have peace and tranquillity to build our country and improve our living conditions. This is because we have passed through the war of national liberation for some 30 years already. We have no desire but to find ways for the Lao and Thai peoples to develop and maintain friendly relations. We do not want them to fight each other. We only want them to live together in peace.

The joint communiques signed by the governments of the two countries in 1987 and 1988 clearly state that the two sides pledge to respect each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and to refrain from interfering in each other's internal affairs. The two sides are prohibited from feeding and sponsoring any forces hostile to other friendly countries to be sent to create disturbances in the other fraternal country. The two countries are prohibited from showing hostility toward each other on the ground, in the air, and on the water. All border problems must not be settled by force but through peaceful means and political negotiations. On this basis, we will develop mutual economic and cultural cooperation under the principle of mutual benefits and equality.

The 1988 joint communique signed by the two governments says that the two sides pledge to further strengthen the Lao-Thai relations and cooperation in the new period in conformity with the current reality. To translate the mutual cooperation into reality, the two sides agree to build a bridge across the Mekong River linking Tha Deua with Nong Khai to facilitate goods transport and contacts between the Lao and Thai peoples. To make effective use of the bridge across the Mekong River, the two sides pledge to cooperate with each other in producing goods and carrying out mining for minerals in Laos for export. The two sides agree to study the issue of cargo transport fees from Laos to the Khlong Toei port [in Bangkok] and to study the import-export tax system to determine appropriate import and export tax rates between Thailand and Laos on the basis of brotherliness. The two sides agree to assign the Lao and Thai military and police forces to maintain lasting peace along the Lao-Thai border. The two sides agree to appoint each other's liaison military officers to monitor and to resolve immediately any problems that may arise along the Lao-Thai border to prevent further killing and fighting. The two sides agree to set up the committees to find ways to settle the border problem in an area between Boten District and Chat Trakan District to maintain the border line in accordance with the treaty signed between France and the Government of the Kingdom of Siam in 1907. To reduce tension along the disputed border area, the two sides agree to set up the joint cooperation committees between Laos and Thailand to be in charge of studying and translating into reality the Lao-Thai cooperation pledge. On the basis of the aforementioned pledges, our two Armed Forces must bear in mind that they have the duty to further promote the relations between our two countries and peoples.

Distinguished personalities, in connection with the development of the relations between Laos and Thailand over the past few years, especially our mutual cooperation in 1990, Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and I already took note of that aspect in our recent speeches in Vientiane. Both of us spoke of the fine relations and mutual cooperation and assistance between the governments and armed forces of our two countries. In my speech, I highly appraised the glorious success of the visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic by Her Royal Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, who left behind a poem for the Lao people to recite, entitled "The Relations Between Laos and Thailand Are as Clear as the Water of a Stream of Affection of Our People."

On this occasion, I would like to raise two important issues—the issues which are linked to the question of our mutual trust and the strengthening of the fine relations between our two countries and Armed Forces—for discussion with you who have the authority to resolve them as follows:

1. The first issue involves the armed Lao exiles who have set up positions in some areas of Thai territory next to the Lao border with the hope of using Thai soil as a springboard to launch nibbling attacks against Lao territory. We know full well that these elements have a clear-cut intention and plan to use Thai territory as sanctuary to carry out protracted disturbances among the Lao people. These elements are the ones who are bent on creating misunderstanding between Thailand and Laos. They are trying to create rifts between our two

countries. They want Laos and Thailand to resume fighting against each other again. More serious still, they have also carried out plundering and robberies among the Lao and Thai peoples living along the Lao-Thai border. They have also engaged in narcotics trafficking. In addition, they have instilled in the minds of many Lao and Thai people suspicions that the Thai Government has a policy to feed and shelter these elements in Thai territory for use in destroying Lao-Thai friendship for a long time to come.

In light of our appraisal of the intention of the armed Lao exiles, I agree with the statement made by Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, which pointed out that these armed Lao exiles are regarded by Thailand as rebels. I would like to ask here: How much longer we are going to allow these elements to continue their activities? The longer we allow them to maintain their existence, the more seriously they will damage the fine relations between Laos and Thailand. Therefore, I believe that it is time that the two armed forces and governments drastically suppress and get rid of these elements—the sooner the better. It is not too difficult to get rid of these elements. The only thing the two Armed Forces and governments should do is resolutely begin launching suppression against them. If the suppression drive is to be carried out, the only thing that the Thai side must do is halt giving assistance to and sponsoring them, disarm them, and confine them in the refugee camps. After that, they should be repatriated to Laos to carry on their livelihood as ordinary Lao citizens. As for the Lao side, we will always cooperate with the Thai side in suppressing these elements to halt them from carrying out disturbances within Lao territory. Wherever they are in Laos, we will launch suppression drives against them. If they face simultaneous suppression in both Thai and Lao territory, it is certain that these elements will be wiped out very soon. If the two sides agree on the said principle, the supreme commands of the two sides must assign the existing joint military committees to carry out suppression drives against these elements. Military units must be instructed to disarm any armed Lao exiles wherever they are sighted. After that, they must be immediately sent to the refugee camps. As for the Lao side, we will deploy our Armed Forces to suppress and wipe out any exiled rebels wherever we see them.

In addition to the cooperation between the armed forces of the two sides, the Thai side is requested to inform the Thai people to understand that these armed Lao exiles are mere renegades. Therefore, whenever and wherever they see these elements, they should report their whereabouts to concerned authorities to suppress and disarm them and send them to refugee camps. Only by doing this will these armed exiles be quickly (?eliminated). As for the Lao refugee camps, the Thai side only needs to hand over the overall number of Lao refugees to the Lao side. After that, the two sides must propose together to the United Nations to fund the construction of refugee camps in Laos so that Lao refugees can be repatriated to their country. Those refugees who do not want to be repatriated but want to live in Thailand or in any third country will be allowed to make their own decisions.

2. The second issue involves the border problem in an area linking Laos' Boten District and Thailand's Chat Trakan District. The Thai people as well as the world's people are still interested in this issue. The border in this area was mentioned in the 1907 treaty signed by France and the Government of the Kingdom of Siam. The only ambiguous thing is that the map of this area is not as clear as those in other areas.

It is necessary to carry out a clear-cut demarcation of the border in this area. The armed forces of the two sides are awaiting the completion of such a clear-cut border demarcation to be completed so that no quarrel between them can take place again. I believe that there is nothing difficult about this border if the Thai Armed Forces and Government are sincere in cooperating with the LPA and the Lao Government in solving the problem together. I think that we should not delay the demarcation of the border in that area. If we are sincere about solving the problem, the authorities in our two armed forces will simply fly an aircraft together over the disputed area and consult with each other on how the border demarcation there should be carried out to conform with the 1907 Treaty signed by the Governments of France and the Kingdom of Siam. After that, they just report the outcome to the governments of the two sides so that the border committees set up by the two sides can be assigned to carry out the demarcation.

No one will gain or lose in this activity. Both sides only stand to gain from it. The Lao and Thai peoples will then be very happy, and the world's people will certainly acclaim our accomplishment. I propose that while no border demarcation is carried out in this troop-separation zone no one be allowed to carry out any construction in this area. Moreover, the armed exiled Lao rebels must not be allowed to enter this area to set up their posts or use it as a passage into Laos.

I propose that the joint military committees of the two sides be assigned to carry out the inspection of the borderline in this area. The supreme commands of the two sides must appoint certain important persons to closely supervise this work. The supreme commands of the two sides must prepare reports to be submitted to their respective governments to resolve this issue together as soon as possible. After solving the border problem in this area, the joint committees of the two sides should be assigned to inspect other areas where new problems may crop up to find ways to prevent future violations of each other's border areas. The armed forces of the two sides must refrain absolutely from engaging in any fighting on the ground, in the air, and on the water. On the contrary, they must implement together the two joint communiques signed by the governments of the two sides as mentioned earlier.

I hope that the two supreme commands will outline together detailed measures to resolve the two issues I have just mentioned so that the Lao-Thai relations will be further developed and strengthened. As for our cooperation, we can consult about it with each other later on. This is because we are here now as a cooperation delegation.

In conclusion, it is my wish that the friendship spirit and fine relations between our Lao and Thai brothers be further developed and glow more more beautifully as if they were the full moon. As for the various measures, the two supreme commands have already signed a memorandum on this. I will have the detailed statement distributed to all journalists later.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you. [applause]

Chatchai Criticizes Launching of Lao Border Plan

BK2108022190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Aug 90 p 4

[By Kokhet Chanthaloetlak]

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has criticized the military for launching a plan to set up a joint border patrol unit with Laos without consulting with the government first, a military source said yesterday.

The source said Chatchai voiced his dissatisfaction to Directorate of Thai-Lao Operations chief Lt Gen Thamniap Thapmani immediately after the plan was announced by the Thai military chief last week.

Following negotiations with Lao military chief Sisavat Keobounphan, Supreme Commander Gen Suthon Khongsomphong said Wednesday that military officials in both countries would meet to discuss the details of the plan.

Sisavat, agreeing to the plan, said Thai and Lao forces should work together to bring about a "permanent peace" between the two countries.

According to Sunthon, the unit would be composed of Lao soldiers and troops from Thailand's Third Army Region and would be charged with patrolling the Thai-Lao border to prevent illegal border crossings and intercept criminals from either country who would try to flee across the border.

The source, an official at the Supreme Command who requested anonymity, quoting a letter Chatchai sent to Thamniap, saying the establishment of the unit was a matter that should be handled at the government level.

Chatchai said the military should have discussed the matter with the government first, according to the source.

The source said it would be more than a year before the plan, which is being discussed in detail by the provincial-level joint border committee, could be implemented.

He said Thailand would be at a disadvantage in setting up the unit because the Thai government would have to finance all of its proposed military operations.

He cited as an example the now defunct Thai-Lao Khong River patrol unit. He said the unit was abolished because the Thai government did not like having to finance all the river patrol unit's expenses.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Phisit Salikhup, meanwhile, said the planned joint military unit was aimed at increasing Lao trust for Thailand regarding border issues and to strengthen bilateral relations which declined after a border dispute two years ago.

Apart from discussing the joint military unit, Sisavat and Sunthon also talked about the thorny issue of border demarcation which brought the two countries into military clashes in 1987-1988, claiming more than 1,000 lives on both sides.

The clashes stemmed from a dispute over sovereignty of the area between Phitsanulok's Ban Romklao village in Chat Trakan district and Meuang Boten in Lao's Sayaboury province.

The two countries reportedly have not gone far in negotiations over the disputed border being carried out by the Thai-Lao Border Policy Implementation Committee.

Sunthon said Wednesday that Thailand probably would lose some territory in the demarcation at Ban Romklao but would gain territories in other areas after the two countries finally settled the issue.

Trade, Cultural Accord With Uzbekistan Signed

BK2008023190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Aug 90 p B2

[Text] Thai Foreign Ministry officials have reached an agreement covering trade and cultural matters with their counterparts in Uzbekistan, a republic in the Soviet Union, the Soviet Information Service has reported.

Meanwhile, the Thai American Textile Co has reached a separate agreement to import cotton from the USSR with on a cash/barter basis.

Discussions have also been held on the granting of aviation rights between Bangkok and Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. Malaysia and Indonesia have already secured agreements with Tashkent.

Uzbekistan, in central Asia, has a population of 20 million and is famous for its cotton and its vineyards.

Vietnam

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Gulf Crisis

BK2108063890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0627 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 21 (AFP)—Iraq has promised to guarantee the safety of the 16,000 Vietnamese working in the Middle East country, which is denying exit to tens of thousands of other foreigners, Vietnam's Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

A ministry spokesman said Vietnam believed the crisis triggered by Baghdad's invasion and annexation on August 2 of its small, oil-rich neighbour Kuwait "should be first settled by the Arabs in an Arab framework."

He said Vietnam was following the situation "with deep concern," but added that Iraq had promised to safeguard the 16,000 Vietnamese working there. He did not elaborate.

The United States is spearheading demands that Baghdad withdraw its troops from Kuwait and has sent thousands of troops to the Gulf while pressing for an official U.N. declaration upholding its measures to enforce a U.N. proposed embargo on trade with Iraq.

Iraq is preventing nationals of countries that have sent troops or equipment to the region from leaving the country and is holding some in key installations that would likely be the target of attack if fighting breaks out.

The spokesman said Vietnam believed the issue of foreign nationals in Iraq was "a humanitarian problem which must be settled by humanitarian means in conformity with international law so as to assure their safety."

U.S. Senator Lugar, Delegation Depart 20 Aug

BK2008161090 Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 20—Senator Richard Lugar, member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and his party left here this afternoon after a three-day visit to Vietnam.

While here, Senator Richard Lugar, Representative David Dreier, C. Kartman, State Department official, and a number of assistants to the U.S. State Department, were received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi. They also held talks with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The two sides exchanged views on issues of mutual concern, including the Cambodian question.

The meeting took place in the spirit of openness and mutual understanding.

Agriculture Delegation Visits Soviet Union

BK1808044290 Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 17—A delegation of the Commission for Agriculture of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee led by Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the party Central Committee and head of the commission, visited the Soviet Union from August 5-15.

While in the Soviet Union, the delegation had working sessions with the Agricultural Commission and the International Commission of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, the Ministry of Fisheries, the Commission of Food Purchase under the Council of Ministers and the All-Union Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences. It also toured some state farms, logging camps and fishery enterprises in the autonomous Republic of Chechen-Ingush.

Nguyen Ngoc Triu and his party were received by Ye.S. Stroyev, Politburo member and secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee.

Vietnam Helps Laos Install New Telephone System

BK1808081290 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 18—The Vietnamese Corporation of Posts and Telecommunications has completed the assembly of a 120-line complete telephone exchange for Laos after six and a half months' working.

A ceremony was held in Vientiane on August 15 to hand over the telephone exchange on the Lao side in the presence of the Vietnamese corporation head Phan Hoa and leading officials of the ministries of foreign affairs and of transport and posts.

This is the first electronic telephone exchange in Laos built with a fund of U.S. $40,700.

Businessmen, Official Imprisoned for Smuggling

BK2108141890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1044 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 21 (AFP)—A court has sentenced the self-styled richest man in Vietnam, along with a Communist Party official and a company director, to long jail terms for running a massive smuggling ring in the coastal Province of Kien Giang.

The people's provincial court also handed down sentences ranging from between one and three years on seven accomplices found guilty in the cross-border racket that involved several state institutions, the official NHAN DAN newspaper reported Wednesday. The men profited from lax management by local organisations and smugggled goods across the border with Cambodia for distribution in Vietnam.

The stiffest sentences following a trial that ended last Wednesday were reserved for a local party official Nguyen Viet Quang and businessmen Huynh Binh Phuoc, alias Binh Hot, and Bui Anh Dung.

The court also fined him six billion dong (one million dollars) and confiscated two boats and two trucks he owned, the daily newspaper said.

Mr. Quang was jailed 14 years for smuggling and deliberate law breaking, Mr. Dung was imprisoned 10 years for smuggling while the seven smaller players received terms of between one and three years in prison.

Mr. Phuoc, during seven operations in March and May last year, smuggled goods worth 3.9 billion dong (650,000 dollars) across the border with Cambodia. The goods comprised mainly foreign cigarettes, radio cassettes and video recorders.

Mr. Phuoc, besides involvement in these operations through his Rach Soi shop, dabbled in other smuggling ventures covering goods worth four billion dong (660,000 dollars) and was found guilty of an eight billion dong (1.3 million dollars) speculation.

The press had reported in April that the smuggling ring had "channels stretching to Cambodia, Thailand, Singapore, Canada and Australia." Observers noted that Cambodia acts as a transit point for consumer goods headed for Vietnam and China from Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and other non-communist countries in the region.

Quang Tri Security Force Arrests Smugglers

BK1808044690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Aug 90

[Text] Since early this year, the Quang Tri Provincial public security force has discovered and arrested 134 smugglers who engaged in cross-border trade transactions valued at almost 2 billion dong. An additional 462 million dong in tax fraud has been recovered.

The public security force also monitored suspected smugglers at various key areas such as Dong Ha City and the three villages of Tan Thanh, Tan Long, and Tan Phuoc in Huong Hoa District. The force found out that many traders and state cadres have engaged in illegal trading with drivers of transportation terminal no. 6 and tourist cars. Most of the cross-border trades along route no. 9 were conducted by groups of people and individuals from Quang Nam-Da Nang Province. These persons sold gold, silver, and precious stones to foreign traders and bought back luxury items, cosmetics, clothes, and foreign hard currencies.

Transport of Contraband by Army Trucks Condemned

BK2008135190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 16 Aug 90

[Article by Chinh Tam: "Those Trucks With Red License Plates That Operate on the Western Interprovincial Road Networks"]

[Summary] "In the recent past, the Hau Giang provincial industrial and commercial tax sector was reported to have arrested three or four trucks carrying smuggled goods through the province each day. A review of work against smuggling in the first six months of 1990 revealed the discovery of 483 cases involving the transportation of smuggled goods from An Giang and Kien Giang provinces to Ho Chi Minh City. Taxes collected from these smuggled goods had reached 1.3 billion dong, accounting for 13 percent of the total amount of industrial and commercial taxes collected by the province."

In more than one month of operations alone, an interbranch market inspection and management team arrested 122 cases of smuggling. Of these, some were reported to be valued at tens of millions of dong.

"A matter of extreme concern is that most of the smuggled goods have been transported by trucks and other types of vehicles with military license plates or public security enblems. Typical of these was the arrest on 28 June 1990 by an inspection team of a truck carrying license plate No. 70A-1436 of the Tay Ninh provincial investigation police office when it was found to be transporting 151 boxes of foreign cigarettes.

"Recently, with the coordination of the military inspection forces, it was dicovered that nearly one-third of the quantity of smuggled goods seized in the 9th Military Region during the period from May to June were those found aboard trucks carrying red license plates or emblems of various military organs.

"Contraband is no longer a strange phenomenon to the domestic market. However, it is noteworthy that private traders have, in the recent past, used the means of army transport to engage in smuggling. This practice, which is prevalent on the western interprovincial road networks, mostly involves trucks bearing KK license plates of the 9th Military Region."

Contraband aboard these trucks does not need camouflage or concealment to avoid inspection by tax officers because these trucks are the means of transport that no civilian agencies have the right to inspect except for the military control forces.

"We have been informed that to transport contraband aboard these trucks, private traders must pay extra money as a commission to the drivers, and the commission is based on the volume of goods at the average rate of 1,000 dong per kilometer for a box of Japanese cigarettes, 5,000 dong for a cassette player-recorder, and 10,000 dong for a video player."

Allowing private traders to make use of military vehicles to engage in illegal activities not only affects the prestige of the Army, but also causes shortfalls in tax collection of the state and disrupts the market. We suggest that measures be adopted by various competent echelons to put an immediate stop to these erroneous acts.

Seminar Held To Help Overcome 'Brain Drain'

BK1808090890 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 18—A national seminar on project VIE/88/045 entitled "Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals" (TOKTEN) funded by the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) was held in Ho Chi Minh City on August 16-17 by the TOKTEN representative office in the city.

Present at the two-day seminar were scientists, technicians, professors of universities and colleges, and representatives of overseas Vietnamese in the United States, France, Italy and Belgium.

This project is aimed at helping developing countries overcome the situation of one way "brain drain." Through the project, overseas nationals will be assisted by the United Nations to return home and stay for a period of time to take part in national reconstruction. Vietnam is the 29th country to join the TOKTEN programme. Participants at the seminar exchanged views on the implementation of the TOKTEN programme in a number of countries, and on Vietnam's scientific and technical potentials to mobilize overseas nationals' contributions to the country.

Party Adviser Pham Van Dong on Aug Revolution

BK1808092890 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 18 Aug 90

[All quotation marks and ellipses as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 18—On the 45th anniversary of the August Revolution (August 19) the party daily NHAN DAN today carries an article by Pham Van Dong, former prime minister, former Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and now adviser to the CPV Central Committee.

Excerpts follow:

The August Revolution and the revolutionary struggle of the Vietnamese people in the past 45 years took place under the twin-banner of national independence and socialism set by Ho Chi Minh in the Summarized Political Program at the founding of the Communist Party of Vietnam in 1930, in accordance with the law of history which has been vindicated more and more deeply and broadly in the new era.

The 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam opened a process of all-round and profound renovation of the country in the transitional period to socialism. To continue that process and in preparation for the Seventh Party Congress, we are building the program and the socioeconomic strategy by creatively applying Marxism-Leninism, inheriting Ho Chi Minh's thoughts, ethics and work style, in order to give fuller significance to the August Revolution and its gains....

"In the context of present strong internationalization of the nations' life and the third world's burning issues, many global issues of vital character are being urgently posed to each people and the whole mankind such as the safeguarding of peace, the protection of enviroment.... Only socialism can give a proper solution to those issues and take history forward.

"In spite of recent tragedies and their possible recurrence in the future, socialism, which is conceived right in the hub of history and modern capitalism, is featuring more and more prrominently in the agenda of nations. Overcoming the consequences of the errors of leaders, socialism, will make new steps forward as a result of the creative application of Marxism-Leninism by combining it with the characteristics of each nation, by inheriting all the precious achievements of mankind, including capitalism, and taking immensely diversified roads, steps and ways of doing thing..

"Though the sky is not bright all over the world and more storms are likely to come, and the socioeconomic situation in our country still meets with very acute problems, our nation is united in following the party's leadership. We will surely overcome difficulties, liquidate the mistakes and errors already pointed out and rightly condemned by the people, stabilize the situation and take renovation forward. There is no doubt that our people will turn into reality Uncle Ho's wish in his testament to "build a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam, and make a worthy contribution to the world revolution."

Food Shortages Reported in Hau Giang Province

BK1808142090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] The Hau Giang provincial people's committee and the grain and communications and transportation sectors have shipped some 19 metric tons of rice to Thanh Tri, My Xuyen, Vinh Chau, Long Phu, and My Tu Districts to help 650 households cope with food shortages. These districts are inhabited mostly by compatriots of Khmer origin.

So far, prolonged drought has affected more than 10,000 hectares of land in these coastal districts. Moreover, price increases, especially the high prices of rice and fertilizer, have caused food shortages in many districts, adversely affecting the lives of local people.

The provincial party committee and people's committee have set up many inspection teams to monitor the situation and have supplied our compatriots with rice so they can cope with food shortages.

Increasing Role of Non-State Sector Viewed

BK1808162990 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 18—The benefits of a multisector economy are discussed by Huu Tho, deputy editor-in-chief of the national daily NHAN DAN in the August issue of VIETNAM COURIER, an English-language monthly review.

Huu Tho argued that instead of "wavering in the implementation of the development of a multi-component economy," more active steps should be taken to enact and enforce legislation so as to encourage development of the non-state sector while limiting its negative aspects. He wrote: "The non-state sector occupies an ever more important position in the national economic life: It has boosted the volume of social product, helped in the circulation of goods, and created jobs for millions of people [words indistinct] an important point, employment being at present a burning social problem.

In agriculture, forestry, and fishery, the cooperative sector has undergone a qualitative renewal. The private sector has developed mainly on the basis of a newly-conceived family economy. A number of farms have been set up in some areas of the uplands, along the coast, in the Plain of Reeds, and in the Long Xuyen Quadrangle. At present, about 90 percent of the output of rice, 56 percent of that of coffee, more than 90 percent of the domestic animals and poultry, and nearly 100 percent of the production of vegetables, fruit and eggs, are being produced by the non-state economic sector.

In industry, the non-state sector accounts for 50 percent of output value (60 percent with regard to consumer goods), and employs more than two million people. A number of private enterprises have come into being, mainly in the processing and service industries.

In transport and communications, in the non-state sector, 33 million tonnes of goods and 1,600 millon tonnes/km have been transported, accounting for 65 percent of the tonnage and 40 percent of the tonne/km carried by local means of transportation. Private transport enterprises tend to develop in Ho Chi Minh City, Haiphong, Nghia Binh, etc.

In the circulation and distribution of goods, this sector accounts for 68 percent of the retail trade and some credit cooperatives have been active in money trading.

It is common knowledge that a market-oriented economy is often affected by fraud and deception, uneven development, and that such practices as tax evasion, tax fraud making counterfeit goods, tend to develop, spurred by the profit motive.

The point is to stop such practices by using legal and economic measures instead of wavering in the implementation of the policy on the development of a multi-component economy. Our economy is undergoing structural changes. Many new economic relations are taking shape or have been formed. Meanwhile, work in the fields of legislation and organization has not kept pace with those changes. That is why the problem here is to quickly promulgate laws and regulations, first of all on trading, labor, the settlement of bankruptcies, and the setting up of courts of law dealing with economic litigation.

Article Defines Preferred Socialist Model

BK1708040190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 6 Aug 90

[NHAN DAN article by Professor Nguyen Van Minh: "Which Model Should Be Selected for Socialist Construction?"—date not given]

[Text] The serious crisis facing most of the socialist countries, especially those in Europe, is clear evidence of the failure of the old socialist models. Moreover, this crisis has increased both in intensity and scope as a number of new models have been designed to replace the old ones. The danger of the collapse of socialism on a national and international scale lies in the very inadequacy of these old and new models. The models adopted by dogmatic and simplistic socialism deny the existence of different forms of ownership and the role of the commodity economy. They also help build a politico-economic system based on bureaucratic centralism and undemocratic principles. Worse still, they create conditions for a number of countries to maintain a personality cult, despotism, authoritarianism, family rule, favoritism, and extreme chauvinism. All these models have been caught up in a crisis and have actually had their lives shortened in some socialist countries.

People have looked for new socialist models to replace the old ones. Of course, these new models are but guiding principles for defining the fundamental orientations for actual work implementation. The greatest danger that one may face in the search for new models is a complete negation of the achievements by socialism and history, and more seriously, a breakaway with the basic issues addressed by scientific socialism and Marxism-Leninism. Certain people have continued to recognize Marxism-Leninism but have attached importance only to the dialectical aspect of this doctrine and have ignored the principles of historial materialism, scientific socialism, the communist parties, and the world communist and workers movements.

All these errors have sidetracked efforts to formulate new models and have ultimately led people to return to the concepts, patterns, and forms adopted by the bourgeoisie-backed democratic regime, pluralism, the private ownership-based economy, and the market-oriented economic mechanism.

The serious consequences that a number of countries have had to bear can be seen in the fact that the antisocialist forces have taken advantage of these mistakes. The party has lost its right to leadership, and the people have had no power. Preparations for privatization are under way.

These developments mark a turning point never seen before in history and are proof of the setbacks incurred by erroneous concepts about socialism, a failure to adhere to Marxism-Leninism, and the mistakes committed by the leadership in the fierce struggle between the two paths that has flared out in the process of renovation.

Considering everything from a truly scientific point of view, we can neither accept these concepts nor regard them as progressive trends capable of resolving the crisis. These concepts will only further aggravate the crisis and divert attention from socialist achievements.

Under the leadership of different socialist democratic parties in the various developed capitalist countries, the socialist democratic model is gaining momentum in the world, especially in northern and West Europe. Basically, this model maintains capitalism and helps guarantee the stability of the capitalist world. It does not find fault with the capitalist private ownership system. As a result, the state apparatus and democratic rights all belong to the bourgeoisie and must serve the latter's interests. Economic, social, and political reforms are effected just for form's sake and in the framework of capitalism. Therefore, it is not suitable for the socialist countries to follow this model. The socialist countries should learn from the capitalist countries' experiences but should not adopt their models. And that is because, basically, we cannot go back to capitalist construction.

Our country's history does not accept the capitalist path or the bourgeoisie-backed dictatorship. We only recognize a multisectorial economy, including the capitalist economic sector, attach importance to efforts to consolidate the leading role of the state-run economic sector, promote the concept of all-people ownership, and maintain the proletarian dictatorship, which constitutes the nature of democratic socialism and serves as a state that comes from, belongs to, and works for the people. These are the prominent traits of scientific socialism.

The most important issue now is what kind of model we should apply to build socialism in our country. Since the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress and the party Central Committee's sixth, seventh, and eighth plenums, we have come to decisive turning points. First, we had to shift from the old socialist construction model to the new one and from the old to the new construction strategy. Our most striking task is to advance toward socialism by shifting from a self-reliant economy based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies to the multicomponent commodity-based economy. The simple public property system has been replaced by the diversified ownership one. We have combined production planning with marketing in accordance with the new marketing concept, and we have realized that marketing is the main factor for economic planning.

Second, the party Central Committee's sixth plenum resolution stressed the necessity to broaden socialist democracy—especially in the political, economic, cultural, and ideological domains—renovate the organization and activities of our political system, strengthen party leadership, improve state management efficacy, and promote the people's democratic rights; while the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution attached much importance to maintaining political stability in order to strengthen and improve the socioeconomic situation.

Third, we have established relations with more foreign countries while striving to strengthen international solidarity. As a result, change in our country's socialist construction model is taking place. The new model is based on a comprehensively new objective unanimously adopted by our party and state and is firmly built on the basic concepts of Marxism-Leninism and the spirit of independence and creativity in conformity with conditions in our nation.

Moreover, our renovation cause has attached much importance to the general achievements scored by civilization in the present era and to socialist construction models in the world. This will be undoubtedly stipulated in the draft program for building socialism and in the socioeconomic development strategy being formulated by the party Central Committee for the forthcoming Seventh CPV Congress.

The new model for building socialism in our country will be developed significantly in accordance with the spirit of this program and other resolutions of the forthcoming party congress.

However, Vietnam, as well as other socialist nations, will not be able to complete a perfect theoretical model for building socialism in the next few years. A perfect model can only be formulated through experiences derived from various concrete models.

Vietnam is advancing from the transition period toward socialism with a backward agricultural economy. There is no model in the world that suits our conditions theoretically and practically. As a result, our success depends on our ability to review and learn from the reality in building socialism in Vietnam. This is a major task of our entire party and people. Natural and social scientists, as well as activists of various echelons and in localities, play an important role in drawing experiences from this reality.

South Pacific Commission To Keep Noumea Base

BK1808074490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0704 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Suva, Aug 18 (AFP)—A regional subcommittee has recommended that the South Pacific Commission (SPC) retain its headquarters in the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia. A statement by the SPC headquarters subcommittee, which met here for a week, said that French and New Caledonian authorities were considering a financial package for rebuilding the headquarters.

Officials of the 27-member SPC who attended the meeting told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that concern over the cost of maintaining the SPC headquarters in Noumea had prompted consideration of Fiji an alternative location. But French delegates had assured the committee that authorities in Paris and Noumea were working on a budget for reconstruction of the headquarters, they said.

The committee studied prospects of relocating in Fiji, as favoured by most Pacific island states because of Fiji's strategic location. But the Fiji Government had made no proposal for reconstruction of SPC headquarters and had no intention of doing so, the statement said.

Regional island delegates told AFP earlier this week that France wanted to keep the SPC headquarters in its Pacific territory for reasons of "influence and prestige." Fiji Foreign Affairs Secretary Robin Yarrow said Fiji had "no special position on this one. We go along with the consensus of the group."

The SPC was established in 1947 by countries which then had South Pacific colonies or territories including France, Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and the Netherlands. It provides training and assistance in social, economic and cultural areas.

Australia

Inflation Forecast Reviewed Due to Gulf Crisis

BK1908073290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Hawke, says the Middle East crisis has caused the government to revise its inflation forecast due to have been announced in the budget on Tuesday. The treasurer, Mr. Keating, has said the government believed it could reduce inflation to about six percent in the financial year that started last month.

However, Mr. Hawke told a television interview today, that this inflation forecast was now being reviewed as a result of the Middle East crisis. He said developments in the Middle East meant it was too early to make an accurate estimate of what the inflation rate would be.

Mr. Hawke acknowledged that if the inflation figure became too high the government would have problems with its prices and incomes accord with the trade union movements.

Hawke Meets With Iraqi Envoy Over Crisis

BK2008105490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Canberra, Aug 20 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke warned Iraq Monday against using Australians and other foreigners as human shields, officials said.

During a 40-minute meeting with Iraq's ambassador here, 'Afif Isa al-Rawi, Mr. Hawke said there would be repercussions if foreigners were harmed, they said. Mr. Hawke told the ambassador that the crisis could be solved only if Iraq withdraws from Kuwait and lets foreigners leave, but the Iraqi ambassador gave no assurances for the safety of the Australians, they said.

Canberra has advised the estimated 80 Australians trapped in Kuwait to ignore Iraqi efforts to round them up if possible. Australia's consul in Baghdad, Brian Rowe, has left for Kuwait to try to assess the Australians' position.

Naval officials here said the Navy was preparing to relieve the two guided missile frigates sent to the Persian Gulf, HMAS Adelaide and HMAS Darwin, and the supply ship HMAS Success, if the crisis lasted more than three months. The normal overseas deployment for ships was three months, they said.

The three ships are due to arrive Tuesday in Fremantle, western Australia, eight days after leaving Sydney. Crews have spent the time at sea carrying out exercises to prepare for potential dangers in the Gulf.

Air Force bombers and patrol planes have launched simulated air raids and missile attacks on the ships, while the crews have also held major damage control exercises.

HMAS Darwin and Adelaide are fast, lightly armed ships designed mainly to fight submarines and protect larger ships such as aircraft carriers against attack. Defence officials are uncertain how well they would perform if the Gulf crisis escalates into a "shooting war." Their main problems would be mines, aircraft attacks or sea-skimming missiles.

But aircraft attacks would have to avoid U.S. or Saudi fighters based in Saudi Arabia, penetrate the ships' anti-aircraft missile defenses and then brave the close-in radar-guided cannon fire of the frigates' gun system to drop their bombs.

Hawke Asks Parliament Support on Mideast Crisis

BK2108091190 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Aug 90

[From the program "International Report"]

[Text] Prime Minister Hawke has given his first full explanation to Parliament of Australia's role in the military blockade of Iraq. Mr Hawke has moved in the House in Representatives to gain the Parliament's formal support of the government's actions and to condemn Iraq for holding Australian citizens hostage. At the same time, the foreign affairs minister, Gareth Evans, has announced that he is about to visit the Middle East, Europe, and America for urgent consultations on the Gulf crisis.

From Canberra, Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent, Stuart Heather, reports:

[Begin recording] [Heather] So far, Australia's response to the Gulf crisis has been directed by the prime minister in consultation first with some of his Cabinet colleagues, then later with all Cabinet ministers, and lastly with a meeting of the caucus of government parliamentarians. They overcame disquiet, particularly among the left faction, to unanimously endorse Mr Hawke's actions of sending warships to the Middle East. With that behind him, Mr Hawke has now set out to get the endorsement of the Parliament.

[Hawke] On 2 August Iraq invaded Kuwait. That action has provoked one of the gravest international crises since World War II and, Mr Speaker, it has challenged us to define the way in which the world community will cooperate in the years ahead.

[Heather] Mr Hawke outlined what he called the framework of Australia's response to Iraq's invasion of its small neighbor, Kuwait—the framework of international law and the United Nations Charter which that invasion violated. And Mr Hawke committed Australia not to strike first against Iraq.

[Hawke] Our ships have been sent to the Gulf region with a clear mission to assist in enforcing economic sanctions. The government has defined the way in which our ships will operate in fulfilling that mission—as I said, identification, contact, interrogation, and warning—and discussions are now underway with other participants to establish coordination procedures and areas of operations. I should make it clear here that our ships are not being sent to the Gulf region to attack Iraq. They will engage Iraqi Armed Forces only in self-defense. Apart from this deployment in support of the United Nations sanctions, the government will continue to pursue diplomatic approaches to the problems in the Gulf.

We do not seek conflict. Absolutely the opposite. We will support any constructive diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis.

[Heather] Part of the government's search for diplomatic solutions is a 10-day mission by the foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, to Cairo, Rome, Washington, and New York for discussions with Arab leaders, United Nations officials, the European Community, and the American Administration.

[Evans] Well, essentially it is in order to get an assessment of where this might be heading, what sort of role the UN might soon be able to play, what kind of role we should be playing and, in particular, what are the prospects for a peaceful resolution to the crisis.

We have, of course, been in contact through our diplomatic missions with all the governments that I will be talking to, but there is really no substitute for effective conversation across the table, and I hope I will be in a better position to brief the Cabinet as a result of this series of visits.

[Heather] Aren't all our options tied up because we have taken part in a military blockade?

[Evans] Well, there is no question of resiling from that participation. If there is any way this is going to be resolved in the interests of world peace, it can only be by the kind of pressure that is now being placed on Iraq. Hopefully, the peaceful economic pressure that the blockade constitutes will be enough to make them realize the grievous error of their ways, but we just have to keep our fingers crossed in that respect. [end recording]

Minister Announces Ban on Antarctic Mining

BK1708152490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0904 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Hobart, Australia, Aug 17 (AFP)—Australia will ban mining and mineral exploration in its Antarctic territory, Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Friday.

Mr. Evans said in a speech here that Canberra would enact laws to ban any mining on Australia's 42 per cent slice of Antarctica and would prohibit Australians from mining in the remaining sectors. "This legislation is an important step in Australia's campaign to maintain the Antarctic forever as the world's last great untouched and unexploited wilderness," he said in a joint statement with Environment Minister Ros Kelly. "Antarctica must stay white," Mr. Evans said.

"The Australian campaign (to ban mining in) the Antarctic has been joined by France since August 1989 and is continually gaining momentum," he said. France and Australia, as two of the seven territorial claimants to the area, vetoed a mining convention adopted in 1988 which would have allowed mining on the frozen continent.

Mr. Evans said he hoped that a special consultative meeting of the 22 Antarctic treaty countries in Chile in November would come to an agreement that would help preserve the area.

Opponents to mining in the area want Antarctica declared a world park which would be off-limits to all developers. Mining on mainland Antarctica is so far mostly only a theoretical threat. There are coal and mineral reserves under the ice, which is three kilometres (nearly two miles) thick, but they are too expensive to recover at current prices.

Mr. Evans said the legislation would be introduced in the next session of Parliament beginning next week. "Mining for the purposes of the legislation will include oil drilling, and the related steps of prospecting and exploration," he said.

Fiji

Indian Religious Groups Decry New Constitution

BK2008161190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0847 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Suva, Aug 20 (AFP)—Major Indian religious groups Monday slammed Fiji's new Constitution claiming it relegated Indians to a spent political force. A joint statement from Hindu, Sikh and Christian Indians said they opposed the "forced imposition" of the new Constitution which they said condemned ethnic Indians to "play a peripheral role in parliament."

The religious groups representing the bulk of Fiji's 327,000 ethnic Indians—just under half the country's population—said they opposed the "grossly unequal provisions for representation of Indians" in Fiji's parliament.

The religious groups warned of special powers in the Constitution which gave the government the ability to waive basic human rights and freedoms. "It provides for emergency powers that are a constitutional recipe for outright authoritarian rule. The similarities with the South African situation are far too obvious," the statement said.

Indians could not feel secure about other fundamental rights "in the absence of political rights," the statement said.

The umbrella Moslem organisation, Fiji Muslim League, representing about 50,000 Indians, said it would contest elections under the new document which replaced the constitution torn up after coups toppled an Indian-dominated government in 1987.

Under the new Constitution, Indians get 27 seats in the House of Representatives compared with 22 before. Fijians get 37 seats (22 before), Polynesian Rotumans one (nil), and Chinese, part-Europeans and other races five (eight).

The posts of prime minister and president are reserved for indigenous Fijians.

Papua New Guinea

Guerrillas Warned Not To Use Border as Base

BK1808085090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0801 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Port Moresby, Aug 18 (afp) - Foreign Minister Sir Michael Somare warned Saturday that OPM [Free Papua Movement] guerrillas would not be allowed to use Papua New Guinea territory as a base to launch attacks on Indonesian troops in Irian Jaya.

He said Papua New Guinea was sending troops to the border to destroy all camps identified as belonging to the OPM (Organisasi Papua Merdeka or Free Papua Movement) on Papua New Guinea soil.

"All OPM activists and hard-core leaders will be arrested, prosecuted and deported," he said in a statement. He warned that what he described as "permissive residents known to be actively perpetrating the cause of OPM" would be similarly dealt with.

Sir Michael's warning follows reports of a fresh wave of raids in Irian Jaya by OPM fighters in support of demands for independence from Indonesia for the western half of the island of New Guinea, a former Dutch colony.

Port Moresby last week lodged an official protest with Jakarta after indonesian troops crossed the rugged border in pursuit of guerrillas who had attacked an Indonesian outpost, the second such protest in two months. Five people are reported to have died in recent clashes between the rebels and pursuing Indonesian troops.

Sir Michael also Saturday called on Indonesia to "refrain from violating the common border." He said, "Papua New Guinea's position is that both Indonesia and the OPM rebels should solve their problems on their side of the common border."

Villagers in the Yapsie area of West Sepik Province, which borders Irian Jaya, are reported to have fled into the bush.

Sir Michael said riot police would also be deployed in the area to restore and maintain law and order. His government last month deported one of the OPM's most senior leaders, Mecky Salosa, and handed him over to Indonesian authorities on the border. Mr. Salosa's relatives, who said he was being sent to his death, accused Port Moresby of breaching human rights and threatened to take the matter before the international court.